

# THE LONDON LITERARY GAZETTE;

AND

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### REVIEW OF BOOKS, &c.

Utile; dulce: \* Sweetly utilitarian.

APPROACHING towards the close of the year, we find our Reviewing somewhat in arrears: so, to bring up the Publishing with a wet sail, We invent this New Method, wholesale and retail,†

1. A Good Book.
2. A Square Book.
3. A Rude Book.
4. A Rare Book.
5. A Play Book.
6. An Old Book.
7. A Way Book.
8. A Bold Book.
9. A New Book.
10. A School Book.
11. A True Book.
12. A Fool Book.
13. A Dull Book.
14. A Queer Book.
15. A Skull Book.
16. A Dear Book.
17. A Cheap Book.
18. A Lies Book.
19. A Deep Book.
20. A Wise Book.

End of the Score.

1. *The Sacred History of the World, attempted to be Philosophically considered, in a Series of Letters to a Son, Vol. II.* By Sharon Turner, F.S.A., R.A.S.L. 8vo. pp. 583. London, 1834. Longman and Co.

In every sense of the words, truly "a Good Book." Religious, moral, sound in principle, patient in investigation, and fair and candid in reasoning—what production upon so grave and momentous a subject could possess higher recommendations to the public favour? The first volume, warmly as we spoke of it, and much as we anticipated of its success—not only from the writer's well-established character, but from the particular ability he had displayed in that important essay—has far exceeded our expectations, and become a standard work in every quarter where true piety and honourable literature are prized. Nor will this the second volume, and sequel, be less acceptable. It is indeed a sterling publication, and worthy of universal regard. It continues, as the preface states, "the attempt to trace the outlines of the sacred history of the world, as the phenomena of nature and the experience of life unfold it to us; with such illustrations as the superior sources of our knowledge upon it more certainly supply. The former Letters were principally directed to consider it in the formations and system of the material laws and structure of our globe, and in the various classes of organic and sentient life which appear upon it. The present correspondence carries on the investigation; but is more particularly applied to observe and delineate the Divine economy in its more special reference to mankind; and to

exhibit the plans and principles and purposes which seem to have been pursued with respect to them, and to the progression of human nature in their successive generations, and therefore in the conduct and history of human affairs, so far as the author has been able to perceive and to describe them."

Mr. Turner, with his usual modesty and honesty, adds: "In whatever form of style, and however strongly or positively the opinions of the author may be found to be expressed, it has been in no part his desire or meaning to dictate to any one. But to have used qualifying expressions to every sentiment he wrote, would have loaded the pages with such perpetual repetitions, that he thought it better to state his ideas in the language which implied his full conviction of their truth, and with the freedom and sincerity which will give them their chief value, and therefore in the phrases which thus naturally occurred to him; and to make this general disclaimer of any presumptuous assumption that he only can be right, or that he invariably is so. He therefore begs leave again to say, that he submits his Letters to the reading world as nothing more than his personal convictions, arising from the greatest degree of inquiry and consideration that his means and ability allowed him to exercise, and as the conclusions which have appeared to him to be the truth he has been in quest of. What weight or influence they may obtain beyond himself will depend upon the spontaneous judgment of those who may favour them with a candid or not hostile perusal. There were some other topics he should have liked to have reviewed. He had purposed to have considered the Divine system in our laws of life and death, in the empires which have been raised since the Jewish, which he considered to have a providential character; in the state and continuance of the uncivilised nations of the world; in the plans that concern the subsistence of its sentient beings, and our individual participation of it; in the employments of the human race; in the establishment of government and laws; in the state of property and of poverty among mankind; in the rise and prevalence of the varied ranks and conditions of life; in the natural and moral evils which we occasionally feel; in the provisions which have been made for human happiness and individual comfort; in the rise and partial progress of the arts and manufactures; and also in the gradual appearance, diversities, and improvements of the literature and knowledge of mankind; with some consideration of the future destinations to which, on this present earth, human nature seems to be advancing. All these are continual subjects of the Divine government, and form a part of the sacred history of the human world. But the limiting space of the volume checked the desire. This publication could not be conveniently enlarged beyond its present extent. It is therefore respectfully offered, as it is, to the indulgence, and, when necessary, to the forbearance, or forgiveness, of all who may permit it to receive their temporary notice."

Such is the design, and it has been developed with much research. The study of Divine Philosophy is recommended, in addition to that of the Natural Sciences. The origin of man and the laws of nature are investigated. Many ancient superstitions are presented to view and discussed; and sacred history, the plan of Providence, the events of human life, the creation, the deluge, the dispersion, and the ends either already achieved or yet hidden in the womb of the future, are all dwelt upon in an interesting manner; and the arguments deduced from their consideration brought to bear upon the virtuous and holy conclusion to which the paternal author seeks to lead his son.

"Much perseverance," we are told, "and many exertions, are necessary in order to penetrate into what is unknown or obscure; and these must for some time be accompanied even with a certainty of defeat, before the intellect can effectually ascertain what it tries to explore. But every attempt lessens the difficulties for those who may follow, and always induces others to engage in the enterprise. Every effort promotes the advance, clears the path, and directs more exactly the exploring thought. It was in this way, and by such degrees, that European navigation reached the East Indies, and that European courage and industry discovered the north and south continents of the remote American portion of our globe. By such successive efforts, long unavailing, the grand principles of all our natural sciences have been unfolded; and the same results must be expected in all endeavours to perceive and elucidate the sacred history of the world."

This reasoning is generally applicable, but not always conclusive. It depends upon the object sought to be explored. It is true, for instance, that, in threading a tangled wood, every succeeding adventure would be more easy than that which preceded; but the last of a thousand persons going into a dark room, one after the other, would not be one iota able to see his way than the first.

The contemplation of a millennium is a vision of our age, which none but minds led astray by enthusiasm can indulge; and we are far better satisfied with Mr. Turner's rational views of human improvement. Would to Heaven they were more generally entertained by professing Christians, by pretending philosophers, by philanthropists, as well as by worldlings! Then, indeed, there would be comfort and happiness; and, though not a millennium, the disgusting spectacles which surround us on every side would be spared. We should not see fools triumphant in their power of folly—we should not witness man oppressing man on every hand—we should not see misery spread abroad over the vast majority of created beings. The earth would be tolerable, at least; and asses, amid the crimes and sufferings which deform it throughout, would not dream and preach of the immediate advent of a thousand years of unalloyed bliss.

The following remarks (as an example of the work) apply to our best knowledge now, and for centuries to come:—

\* Our constant motto, and invariable endeavour. To combine the useful with the agreeable, infusing so much of the light and amusing as to render the learned and scientific generally popular. To make a sheet which, though able men might prize, should be liked by females, youth, and all individuals of whatever class or age who are desirous of keeping up their acquaintance with the literature and intellectual progress of the time.

† Novelty is said to be always pleasing; in which case we may hope that this entirely novel specimen of a Review with Notes (twenty works in sixty words!) will delight the world. Though a *feu-d'espri*, we beg leave to state that its opinions are as serious as if delivered in our more usual manner.—Ed. L. G.

"Increase of knowledge always puts our minds into a different state to that which they were in before it accrued. New thoughts and views occur to us as it comes, and change many of our ideas, and influence our future reasoning. It causes us to feel more strongly an ignorance in other matters, and to desire further information. What satisfied us on the points on which it bears, before we received the addition, no longer has that effect. We feel defects and errors in our opinions which we had not been conscious of, and we break up our attachment to many notions of which we once had no doubt. Hence more knowledge in any one branch of knowable subjects leads us to seek, and seeking, to acquire an augmentation on others. It makes this plurality of information necessary to us; for our minds, if we think at all, will be felt to be full of incongruities and inequalities without it. The parts of our knowledge will be inconsistent with each other. We shall be walking about the world half child and half man, unless we enlarge our information, and rectify our mistaken conceptions. All the divisions of our intellectual treasures must be improved, for us to have a right mind in any that have reference to each other. And what is there in a world so finely and artificially complicated as both our material and living portions of it are, which has not reciprocal relations? We cannot avoid silently criticising ourselves full as much as others act the censors to us; and therefore we shall not feel that we are in the right intellectual state and position, unless we advance our attainments on all the subjects which occupy and actuate our own thoughts, and the minds of our contemporaries, whenever we have the opportunity, as well as on any single one that we may have selected or prefer. To no topics of human meditation do these remarks apply more than to those which we would class among the divine ones; to all that is connected with the Deity and his revelations, and to the interest which we may have in them—the present as well as the eventual one."

"It is the present tendency of the mind to search into the principles and causes of every thing; to inquire into the reasons, to examine the utilities, and to watch and estimate the propriety of the means employed, their working and their results. What it does in all other things, it also is doing with the creations of its God, with his providence, and with his revelations, and will continue to do so. This we may be sure of. The more our scientific researches enlarge, and the greater number of individual minds become active, the more this inquisitorial industry will spread and become influential, both on our thoughts and conduct. This certainty makes it unadvisable to rest in ignorance or indifference about any point on which beneficial ideas or information may yet be elicited. We must, if we wish to keep unimpaired, or on its due footing, what we most value, work out the further knowledge which we need. We must think, and explore, and reason, and study, until we can enlarge our perceptions of the

† Many of the ancients, notwithstanding their paganism, took a pleasure in thinking of Divine subjects. Diogenes is an instance of this: of whom Plutarch remarks:—"I approve of the saying of Diogenes, who, seeing in Lacedæmon a stranger adorned for a feast, very solicitously said to him, 'Does not a good man think every day a feast, and will it not be altogether a splendid one to us if we are wise?' His additional meaning Plutarch thus illustrates or expresses: 'For this world indeed is a most holy temple, and highly worthy of God. Into this a man enters at his birth, not to gaze at motionless statues, or things made with hands, but to contemplate those objects which the Divine mind itself has made sensible to our understanding.'—*Plat. de Trans. v. li. p. 848.*"

philosophy of the Divine Creation and Divine Providence into some nearer proportion to our other certainties and investigations. The more we can shew that the principles and laws on which He conducts and governs human affairs are in harmony with those which substantial Nature indicates in all its movements and operations, the more we shall dignify the general intellect, and multiply individual happiness; for this will ever be the central point of both,—the sun around which all human existence must ever revolve, and from which it will always derive its truest light and joy."

"Meagre as this notice is, we must here conclude: certain, however, that Mr. Turner's "Good Book" stands not in need of our panegyric, but will make its way by its own merits to a proud station among the most successful works of the age.

2. *Encyclopædia Britannica*. Edited by Professor Napier. Vol. IX. Part II. Vol. X. Part I. Edinburgh, A. and C. Black: London, Simpkin and Marshall; Whitaker, Hamilton, and Co.: Dublin, Cumming.

"What, another big square book!" said a royal duke to Gibbon the historian, his royal highness being more afraid of the size than competent to digest the matter. Since the schoolmaster has been abroad, thousands of less elevated persons have lost their apprehensions of great volumes; and it must be allowed that no works have contributed more amply to the diffusion of this improved spirit than the class of Cyclopædias. Of others of these we have lately had occasion to speak; and it now affords us pleasure to notice the progress also of this "Square Book," which, under the direction of Professor Napier, does honour to the scientific attainments and intellect of the northern Athens. These Parts contain from *Eum to Geog* (geography), and are ably compiled and excellently illustrated.

3. *E. Lytton Bulwer's Letter, &c.; with Lord Brougham's Letter from Paris to the Author*. A seventh edition of this able but bitter pamphlet, which is really a "Rude Book" upon the Duke of Wellington, and the new (anticipated) ministry.

4. *A Dissertation on the Antiquities of the Priory of Great Malvern, &c.* By the Rev. H. Card, D.D., &c. 4to. pp. 54. London, Rivingtons; Worcester, Ridge.

This is a "Rare Book," in the ancient acceptance of the word, as O rare Ben Jonson! and so meaning excellent. For it is not, and we rejoice it is not, rare in our age to see the worthy vicar of a church, as in this instance, applying his influence, his purse, and his time, to restore its valuable antiquities, and render it in every way an ornament to the country, and a temple fit for the worship of God. Dr. Card's account of this venerable fabric is extremely interesting; and his exertions to restore the interior to something like its pristine magnificence offers an example deserving of the highest approbation. We wish it were followed every where; and we do believe that the days of ignorant "beautifying," i. e. spoiling and destroying, by enlightened churchwardens and overseers, are pretty well past. The engravings are appropriately executed, and the Priory of Great Malvern made agreeably familiar to the reader.

5. *Short Whist: its Rise, Progress, and Laws. Together with Maxims for Beginners, and Observations to make any one a Whist Player*. By Major A——. Pp. 95. London, Longman and Co.

This is, undoubtedly, "a Play Book;" and it is, further, a very nice book on a game which

has nearly superseded all others; and has, nevertheless, heretofore, had no distinct historian. We never even heard of the origin of the game before.

"This revolution (compared to which those of 1789 and of 1830 were mere things of a day) was occasioned by a worthy Welsh baronet preferring his lobster for supper hot. Four first-rate whist-players—consequently, four great men—adjourned from the House of Commons to Brookes's, and proposed a rubber while the cook was busy. 'The lobster must be hot,' said the baronet. 'A rubber may last an hour,' said another, 'and the lobster cold again, or spoiled, before we have finished.' 'It is too long,' said a third. 'Let us cut it shorter,' said a fourth.—Carried *nem. con.* Down they sat, and found it very lively to win or lose so much quicker. Besides furnishing conversation at supper, the thing was new—they were legislators, and had a fine opportunity to exercise their calling. Let us imagine these four sages to represent the four suits.—*Spades* (digging into the bowels of the lobster). Five shall be game without reckoning honours; thus leaving less to chance and more to skill.—*Clubs*. Then you will never get indifferent players to play, and knock up the game altogether.—*Diamonds*. Three should save lurch; and without calling, the honours may be then scored; but not at four.—*Hearts*. I have finished the lobster; let us try again, upon the last-named principle, with which I am seriously inclined to coincide, and settle it.—*All*. Agreed. So they settled to it, and went home in hackney-coaches by daylight, satisfied with having performed this arduous duty. Next day St. James's Street was in commotion; the Longs and the Shorts formed each a party, and violent was the contention between them. All the gamblers were Shorts; and, by dint of that eloquence which invariably flows in streams of persuasion when any thing is to be got, succeeded in bringing over many middling players to think it a good thing to have more frequent opportunities of losing, or, *may be*, winning. The regular old stagers made an obstinate stand; they were Longs to the back-bone. What! (cried they) overthrow the venerable institutions handed down by our forefathers, which we are bound to transmit unsullied to posterity? What is to become of all those calculations of the odds that we have got by rote, and which by prescription are an integral part of the game? How can we become suddenly habituated to this new-fangled rapidity? It is change, but not reform; never will we consent to so great, so dangerous, an innovation. They were soon, however, outvoted; those 'whose chariots roll upon the four aces' had succeeded in gaining over the multitude who play whist without ever thinking about it. The Longs began to give way, fearing to lose their diurnal amusement altogether, and listened to their opponents, who soon made it plain that good steady play would be recompensed, by obtaining a greater advantage, inasmuch as the loss of a critical odd trick, one out of five, must be oftener fatal than one out of ten; and the events being multiplied, the influence of bad play upon them must be multiplied also. In revenge of the clamouring mob of bunglers, they coalesced with the gamblers, and even went beyond them by introducing French points: thus the stakes were not only imperceptibly doubled by cutting the game in halves, but a very pretty addition made to them by this amendment, which ordained the points played for to be eight, instead of five. The waves of commotion having thus subsided, the original

stirrers-up of the storm, instead of losing their heads, like many of their great prototypes, were installed as lawgivers upon the occasion: they framed a code, which has been observed to this day. Their constituents were, strange to say, all satisfied; and St. James's echoed to the cry of 'Long live Shorts!!!'

The laws, rules, directions, &c. &c. &c. are all desirable to be known by players. We do not, however, think the following a *q. e. d.*:

"When the queen is led on your right, and you have ace, or king, ten, and a small one, by passing the queen you have the tenace; and should your partner hold either ace or king, must make three tricks in the suit."

We give one other extract as a specimen:

"The following stroke at Whist (which, considering that cards are unseen, and their positions only presumed, equals a masterly move at chess), is recorded as shewing what first-rate play can do; the score was four all. A, with *six tricks turned*, remained with ten, seven of trumps and two hearts, and led a heart. B, the left-hand adversary, had knave and eight of trumps and two clubs. C, A's partner, had two small trumps and two hearts. D, the last player, had the king and a small trump, a club and a diamond. D, seeing it was necessary to win every trick, and that there was no chance of doing so unless his partner had either the two best trumps, or a successful finesse in them, trumped A's lead of hearts with the best trump, the king; returned the small one, and thereby won a most critical game."

[*Nota Bene.*—The following are also "Play Books," and we add them to our "Score:"—

*Companion to the Whist-Table* (Griffiths). A miniature affair, partly from *Bell's Life in London*, and explaining and settling a number of useful points.

*The Game of Billiards, &c.*, by J. Tillotson. (Tegg and Son.) Also a small tome, which describes the principles of the game, and particularly the side stroke. Above sixty diagrams illustrate these.

*Shakespeare's Plays and Poems* (Magnet Edition). Vol. I. London, W. M. Clarke. The first of a series of five volumes, to contain the works of this supreme of all "Play Books." It is a moderate-priced and convenient edition.]

6. *The Book named The Governour, devised by Sir Thomas Elyot, Knt.* Londini. A.D. 1564. A New Edition, by A. T. Eliot. 8vo. pp. 293. Newcastle, Hernaman; Lond. Ridgways.

The "Old" Governour of Sir T. Elyot is one of those antiquities which display so much sound Old sense, that it is quite refreshing to have him revived among the slighter productions of the hour. It is good Old English, too; so good, that King Henry VIII. observed of the writer, "throughout the book there was no new term made by him of a Latin or a French word, and that no sentence was thereby rendered dark or hard to be understood;" a pattern for the patchwork, *Lingua-Franca* authors, who now-a-days perplex our mother-tongue with silly scraps of foreign languages which they cannot spell nor their readers understand. Sir Thomas treats of the forms of government, and of the qualities requisite for gentlemen; and his reflections are full of matter. He does not seem to coincide with the modern notion, that men of every station are fit to be politicians, and to direct the movements of state. On the contrary, he argues, "Where all things are common, there lacketh order; and where order lacketh, there all things are odious and uncomely. And that

have we in daily experience; for the pans and pots garnish well the kitchen, and yet should they be to the chamber no ornament. Also the beds, testers, and pillows, besem not the hall, no more than the carpets and the cushions become the stable. In like manner the potter and the tinker, only perfect in their craft, shall little do in the administration of justice. A ploughman or carter shall make but a feeble answer to an ambassador. Also a wagoner or fuller should be an unfit captain of an army, or in any other office of governor. Wherefore, to conclude, it is *only* a public weal where, like as God hath disposed the said influence of understanding, are also appointed degrees and places, according to the excellence thereof, and thereto also would be substance convenient and necessary for the ornament of the same: which also impresseth a reverence and due obedience to the vulgar people or commonalty; and without that it can be no more said that there is a public weal, than it may be affirmed that a house without its proper and necessary ornaments is well and sufficiently furnished."

His ideas on friendship are also deserving of quotation:

"I require not (he says) such excellent friendships as was between Pythias and Damon, between Orestes and Pylades, or between Gynippus and Titus, of whom I have before written (for I firmly believe they shall never happen in pairs or couples); nor I seek not for such as will always prefer the honour or profit of their friend before their own, nor (which is the least part of friendship) for such one as desirously will participate with his friend all his good fortune or substance. But where at this day may be found such friendship between two, but that of Fortune be more benevolent to the one than to the other the friendship waxeth tedious, and he that is advanced desireth to be matched with one having similar fortune. And if any damage happeneth to his old friend, he pitieth him, but he sorroweth not; and though he seem to be sorrowful, yet he helpeth not; and though he would be seen to help him, yet troubleth he not; and though he would be seen to trouble, yet he suffereth not."

Is the world altered? No, not even in the effect of legal studies and practice in cramping the mind. "If, after twenty or thirty years study (he remarks), lawyers happen to come among wise men, hearing matters commented of concerning a public weal, or outward affairs between princes, they no less be astonished than if they, coming out of a dark house at noon-day, were suddenly stricken in the eyes with a bright sunbeam. But I speak not this in reproach of lawyers; for I know divers of them who have neither law nor other learning; and if they were furnished with excellent doctrine, their reason should be the more substantial and certain. Notwithstanding, some lawyers, if they be well retained, will in a mean cause pronounce right vehemently."

Among the quaint matters insisted upon, we find chapter viii. devoted to shew "that it is commendable in a gentleman to paint and carve exactly, if nature thereto doth induce him." And our author is also very favourable to the accomplishment of dancing.

"When the ark of God (wherein were put the tables of the commandments, the yard wherewith Moses divided the Red Sea and did the miracles in the presence of Pharaoh, king of Egypt; also a part of manna wherewith the children of Israel were fed forty years in the desert,) was recovered from the Philistines, and brought into the city of Gaba, the holy King David, wearing on him a linen surplice,

danced before the said ark, a great number of instruments of music following him; whereas his wife Michol, the daughter of King Saul, disdained and scorned him, wherewith (as holy Scripture saith) Almighty God was much displeased. And David not ceasing, danced joyously throughout the city, in that manner honouring that solemn feast, which among the Jews was one of the chief and principal, wherewith God was more pleased, than with all observances that then were done unto him at that time. I will not trouble the readers with the innumerable ceremonies of the Gentiles, which were comprehended in dancing, since they ought to be numbered among superstitions. But I will declare how wise men and valiant captains embraced dancing for a sovereign and profitable exercise."

But whatever the dancing master might perform in the reign of Henry VIII., it is evident that the schoolmaster was not abroad then as now. Sir Thomas sets about explaining, "for what cause at this day there be in this realm few perfect schoolmasters;" and he goes on to exclaim, "Good Lord how many good and clean wits of children be now a days perished by ignorant schoolmasters, how little substantial doctrine is apprehended by the fewness of good grammarians?"

"Undoubtedly there be in this realm many well learned, which if the name of a schoolmaster were not so much had in contempt, and also if their labours with abundant salaries might be requited, were right sufficient and able to induce their hearers to excellent learning, so they be not plucked away green, and ere they be in doctrine sufficiently rooted. But now a days, if to a bachelor or master of arts, study of philosophy waxeth tedious, if ye have a spoonful of Latin, he will shew forth a hog's head without any learning, and offer to teach grammar and expound noble writers; and to be in the room of a master, he will, for a small salary, set a false colour of learning on proper wits, which will be washed away with one shower of rain. For if the children be absent from school by the space of one month, the best learned of them will not tell whether Fato, whereby Æneas was brought into Italy, were other a man, a horse, a ship, or a wild-goose; although their master will perchance advance himself to be a good philosopher."

"The common experience teacheth that no man will put his son to a butcher to learn, or bind him apprentice to a tailor. Or if he will have him a cunning goldsmith, will bind him first apprentice to a tinker. In these things poor men be circumspect, and the nobles and gentlemen, who would have their sons by excellent learning come unto honour, for sparing of cost, or for lack of diligent search for a good schoolmaster, wilfully destroy their children, causing them to be taught that learning which would require six or seven years to be forgotten, by which time the more part of that age is spent wherein is the chief sharpness of wit, called in Latin *acumen*, and also then approacheth the stubborn age where the child brought up in pleasure disdaineth correction."

There is, indeed, nothing new under the sun; and so we take our leave of this good "Old Book."

7. *A Letter to the Right Hon. C. Grant, &c. on the Roads in India.* By G. F. Hughes. Pp. 32. London, 1834. Kidd.

The writer takes a comprehensive view of the productions of India; points out the badness of the roads; and contends, that if proper communications were opened in the directions which he points out, the prosperity both of the



mother country and this vast colony might be incalculably augmented. So much for a "Way Book."

8. *Life of Sir Walter Scott, Bart.; with Critical Notices of his Writings.* By George Allan, Esq. 8vo. pp. 516. Edited by T. Ireland, jun.

It is a "Bold Book" to try to anticipate such a memoir as has been announced by Mr. Lockhart; for it is impossible that any one else could be by many degrees so competent to perform this task. We cannot say much for the judgment of Mr. Allan, who, in painting the early life of Scott, speaks thus of the small town of Kelso, where he was partly educated. "The Ballantyne and other distinguished Kelso families, were conscious of greater wealth, and thought the mercantile profession more genteel than the agricultural!" How ridiculous it is to talk about "distinguished" families in a country town, where the principal inhabitants are indeed respectable in their class and station; and of mercantile professions, meaning thereby very well furnished retail shops, being more genteel than the substantial farmers of the neighbourhood, by whom, by the by, agriculture has long been so ably cultivated as to raise them to a foremost rank among intelligent and well-educated men. In justice we should add, that Mr. Allan's work contains many interesting particulars of the period to which we have referred.

[N.B. *The Domestic Manner and Private Life of Sir Walter Scott*, by James Hogg. 18mo. pp. 136. Glasgow, Reid and Co.; Edinburgh, Oliver and Boyd; London, Black, Young, and Co.—This little production may be noticed in companionship with the foregoing; but as it has not been sent to us for review (always a bad sign of a book, as if the publishers were conscious of demerits and feared the consequences), we shall merely observe, that it has some curious and not unentertaining statements. These have excited the violent wrath of the *Quarterly Review*, which has poured out a full phial of indignation upon the *caput* of poor Hogg; more, perhaps, than his offence provoked. For let us be just: Sir Walter Scott was a truly great and extraordinary man, but not altogether perfect—not the absolutely pure China or faultless Porcelain of creation. But Hogg also is an extraordinary man, and if of more common Deft ware, still as a cat may look at a king, we cannot think that his endeavouring to draw a few traits of his splendid compatriot is so enormous a crime.]

9. *Marston; or a Novel. By a Lady.* 3 vols. London, Hookham.

Not only "a New Book," but a new novel; though the story is founded on the fact of a fatal marriage. The scene is laid chiefly in Italy, and there is much of reality in the details. The events seem to have happened; and are told like truths. The third volume commences with a skip of twenty years; and a very amusing account is given of the famous congress at Vienna, where the author must evidently have been a not unobservant or unqualified spectator. From this part we shall therefore make our extract, to exemplify her work, beginning with a touching retrospect.

"Alas! in less than twenty years many of the brilliant lights which shone at that ball have been extinguished. Twenty years are but a short span in the life of man, and yet they suffice to remove from the world the young, the gay, the flourishing! Eighteen years ago, the Emperor-Alexander was in all his youth, his beauty, and his greatness. At that ball, and the succeeding fêtes, he was one

of their chiefest ornaments, and by his courtesy and amiability one of the most agreeable persons of the society. The Empress Elizabeth shared with justice the eulogiums bestowed on the emperor; she was gentle, amiable, and interesting. In the short space of three years after the congress, they both had passed away! The Empress of Austria, a princess of the house of Tuscany,—young, pleasing, delighting in seeing others happy, and, by her grace, giving charms to the fêtes which she devised for her royal guests;—she, too, has been levelled by the remorseless scythe of Fate. The kings of Wurtemberg, Bavaria, and Saxony, have laid their heads in the dust! The pride of chivalry, George the Fourth, is no more! The tyrant of Europe has paid the debt of nature; and the gallant Prince Eugene Beauharnois is likewise gone! Nor is this all the dirge of that fatal period. Relentless Fate, whilst sweeping from the surface of the globe millions of little fame, whose memories can only be retained by the limited circle of their families, has claimed for her own men whose genius and power drew into their hands the destinies of whole nations. Castlereagh, that British statesman whose comprehensive mind embraced the position of all Europe, and studied to turn it to the advantage of his country, to which he was devoted, and in which he gloried! Schwartzberg, the pride of the Austrian army, and justly esteemed her hero! Wrede, whose Bavarian blood flowed for his country, whilst his courage and gallantry gave that impulse to the Bavarian army which made its bands resist and conquer, where difficulties and dangers almost rendered conquest impossible. Nor be the fairer sex without their requiem! The beautiful Countess Julie Ziehl, the Countess Jacerau, young and lovely women, have been effaced from the circles where they shone and fascinated! The graceful Lady——— but let us enumerate no further; let us return to the past, and fancy that they still exist. 'The leader of the Polonoise,' said the Count W—— to Howard, 'that good-looking young man, with Tartar eyes, which he rolls about incessantly and with great vivacity, is the Count Tchernichoff. He is aide-de-camp to the Emperor of Russia, and leads the promenade, as a true courtier should, to please his royal master. His partner is the Countess Jacerau, a *nouvelle marée*. She is very pretty, and very *sage*, although having no objection to hearing how pretty she is. Nevertheless, the Count Tchernichoff will abandon her fair hand presently, and clapping his own, give the signal for every gentleman that follows him to change partners, and take possession of the hand of the lady immediately behind. Thus, if you cast your eyes a little further on, you will perceive that the King of Prussia will be obliged to relinquish the hand of the Countess Julie Ziehl, with whom he is walking, in favour of the Emperor Alexander, who has placed himself directly before him. The Archduke Charles of Austria leads the Empress Elizabeth. Observe how gracefully she walks; what dignity and feminine gentleness are portrayed in her countenance, combined with much melancholy! The archduke was unfortunate in his command at Wagram, where he was obliged to yield to the overpowering force of Napoleon's army; he is, nevertheless, a brave and much-esteemed officer. The Archduke Jean follows, conducting the Grand Duchess of Weimar. He is a great protector of the arts, and has a magnificent collection of pictures. The Grand Duchess Marie is very lovely. That animated countenance which appears over the

shoulder of the hereditary prince, who is conducting his grandmother, the Archduchess Beatrice, is the Prince Eugene Beauharnois. It is impossible not to discover in it the frank honesty of his character, added to chivalrous bravery; he is generally esteemed and loved. Yonder comes the emperor; he leads the Grand Duchess——. If reports are true, her imperial highness has proved a great diplomat, and out-heroed Herod, *chez vous*;—it should appear that it is not merely your nation who esteem the Dutch dykes.' Howard smiled, but was more intent on observing the promenaders than disposed to converse on politics, and he listened to the Count W——, who continued, 'That bushy-haired square-set Russian is the Count——. His history is too curious and bloody to be told at this season. He is a most extraordinary savage; he speaks foreign languages with great difficulty; and it is related of him, that upon one occasion, when Napoleon passed the Russian army in review, the Emperor Alexander, being very desirous that every thing should be conducted with the greatest correctness, and knowing the Count——'s ignorance of French, and fearing that he might give some handle to ridicule, expressly forbade him to utter one word of French during the review. It so happened, that the regiment the Count—— commanded particularly attracted Napoleon's admiration, and he turned to inquire of Count—— the name of its colonel. His vanity was not proof against this compliment; and, advancing with a satisfied countenance, he ventured to transgress the orders which he had received with one poor little monosyllable, and replied, 'Sire, Je.'\* That is the *Maréchal Schwartzberg* who leads the beautiful Countess de P——. Her talents in diplomacy rival those of the greatest statesmen; not that she is exercising them at this moment, for the *maréchal*, our great hero, could better undertake a war of cannon than of wit;—he has a fine martial countenance. Your minister and great statesman, before whom the congress bends the knee, leads the Duchesse de Sayan, one of our great beauties;—remark her smile, her features, and her figure, for she is exquisitely beautiful. I do not attempt to compliment your countrywomen,—it would be superfluous: if all the ladies of your nation are as handsome as the few to be seen here, your country must bear the palm for beauty. That venerable old soldier, who conducts the Empress of Austria, is the Prince de Ligne, whose reputation as a literary character must have reached England. Although so aged, his mind is as brilliant as when younger; and his sayings are quoted by every body, as witty, pithy, true, and, what is more, unpremeditated.† That

\* "Although all the particulars of the tragical death of the Emperor Paul are generally known, perhaps the following anecdote has not been recounted, notwithstanding that it is asserted by many to be perfectly true: Count—— was one of the assassins of the Emperor Paul. He entered the intended victim's bed-room, with the other conspirators, when the emperor was in bed; but was not the first to strike him. Others were more prompt; and the emperor, who had received a cut across the throat, fell on the floor, while struggling with his murderers, and was long in the agonies of death. Count—— perceiving that the wound had not been made sufficiently deep, advanced and struck the heel of his boot, which had a spur on it, into the wound, and thus held him down till he expired. The conspirators then proceeded to the apartments of Alexander, and threatened him with the same fate, if he did not subscribe to the conditions they proposed to him."

† "His account of the congress, and the manner that the heads of the different nations are employed, is a striking example of this. He says, 'Que la Russie danse pour tout, la Prusse pense pour tout, la Bavière boit pour tout, le Wurtemberg mange pour tout, l'Angleterre prend pour tout, la France cède pour tout, et l'Autriche paye pour tout.'"



corpulent, stern-looking old man is the King of Wurtemberg; he conducts the Princess of Hesse, and is followed by the King of Bavaria and the Countess Molz Zichi, a lady 'of that purple school.' The Maréchal Wrede succeeds them;—remark what a firm fixed countenance he has, as iron as his soul, which would rather break than bend. He leads the beautiful Princess of Lichtenstein. Your Castlereagh conducts the fair and pleasing Princess B—. Do you not think there is some resemblance between those two ministers? Howard was struck with the truth of this remark, and replied, adding a civil phrase for the several compliments which the Count W— had addressed to him. 'The two persons conversing near a window, and the only two not joining in the Polonaise, are great Machiavelists; but I must not place them on an equal rank. The Prince de Talleyrand surpasses the Cardinal Gonzalvi in the same proportion that in colours black bears to gray: no one can penetrate that man's thoughts, or fathom his conceptions; he is framed to command the rise and fall of empires. Yonder white-headed old man is the King of Denmark,—his partner the Princess Tour et Taxis. She is mother to that pretty black-eyed woman who follows with the Prince Rosamowski, by name the Princess Paul Esterhazy. I need not point out the British hero to you, nor tell you how much his great military talents and glory are appreciated in this country. I believe the fair sex are desirous of proving to him, that (like the Roman ladies of old) they admire a hero beyond all praise. Observe, he is leading one of the prettiest of our young women, one very generally courted and very generally capricious; but she smiles on him, while her slaves who follow are forgotten. I will not fatigue you further with the recital of the names of all the other persons gliding on, yet you may observe three handsome men, of elevated stature, following one another;—they are the reigning Duke and Princes of Saxe Cobourg. Further on, Count Hardenberg, the great Prussian diplomat, is followed by the Prince Leopold of Sicily;—but, see, you are invited to join the promeneaders;—and Howard, to his astonishment, perceived the fair hand of one of the prettiest dancers invitingly extended to him. He could not hesitate, and in a moment found himself walking by the side of a beautiful Austrian, dressed with all the taste and elegance of her country, and displaying all the coquetish arts which they know so well how to employ. Many were the couples happily walking, thus united, while the tender tale was told (inaudible to those following in the Polonaise), and rendered more captivating from the excitement of beautiful music, and the fever of the hour."

10. *A Grammar of the French Language, &c.* By P. Petit. Pp. 315. London, Wasey and Practical French Exercises. By the same. Pp. 268.

Each a very nice "School Book" indeed, and quite worthy of a well-informed and skilful teacher.

11. *Principles of Political Economy, &c.* By G. Poulett Scrope, M.P. 18mo. pp. 457. London, Longman and Co.

A small volume, but full of excellent matter and sagacious reasoning. Why we rank it especially as a "True Book" is, that it sets one great principle belonging to this important discussion in a light more clear and true than any other author with whom we are acquainted. We allude to the much-mistaken question between capital and labour. Ignorance argues as if these were not only different things, but

opposed to each other; whereas Mr. Scrope demonstrates that they are the same in essence, and cordially agree and co-operate. What is capital but an accumulation of labour? Suppose two labourers earn each fifteen shillings a week; that one spends his whole income, while the other lays by two shillings weekly. At the end of the year he has a capital of five pounds four shillings—and what is it? saved labour. Mr. Scrope also demonstrates that labour is certainly not the measure of value; and his remarks on Ireland, on rent, and other momentous topics, are all most perspicuous, able, and convincing.

12. *The Gentleman's Dressing-Room Companion and Toilet Guide.* By a Nobleman's Valet. Pp. 39. London, Strange; Cowie.

"A Fool Book," for male fools of every sort, telling them how to have their coats cut, their hair cut, and ever so many cuts, so that they themselves may not be cut by fools of fashion. Soaps and washes for dandy skins—oils and perfumes for dandy wigs or whiskers—in short, all that fools might desire wherewith to make themselves greater fools.

13. *Public Expenditure apart from Taxation.* By D. Wakefield, Esq. 8vo. pp. 281. London, C. Fox.

"A Dull Book," a very dull book, and we recommend it as such to all the descendants of the heroes of the Dunciad, whose Goddess, we hope and trust, Dulness still continues to be.

14. *Somnambulism. The Extraordinary Case of Jane C. Rider, &c.* By W. Belden, M.D. 18mo. pp. 134. London, Simpkin and Marshall.

This is a very Queer American story of a female somnambulist, aged seventeen, at Springfield, in the State of Vermont, whose actions under that influence are altogether extraordinary. We copy an account of one of her strange paroxysms.

"After several attempts to keep her in bed, it was determined to suffer her to take her own course, and watch her movements. Having dressed herself, she went down stairs, and proceeded to make preparations for breakfast. She set the table, arranged the various articles with the utmost precision, went into a dark room and to a closet at the most remote corner, from which she took the coffee-cups, placed them on a waiter, turned it sideways to pass through the doors, avoided all intervening obstacles, and deposited the whole safely on the table. She then went into the pantry, the blinds of which were shut, and the door closed after her. She there skimmed the milk, poured the cream into one cup and the milk into another without spilling a drop. She then cut the bread, placed it regularly on the plate, and divided the slices in the middle. In fine, she went through the whole operation of preparing breakfast with as much precision as she could in open day; and this with her eyes closed, and without any light except that of one lamp which was standing in the breakfast-room to enable the family to observe her operations. During the whole time she seemed to take no notice of those around her, unless they purposely stood in her way, or placed chairs or other obstacles before her, when she avoided them, with an expression of impatience at being thus disturbed. She finally returned voluntarily to bed; and on finding the table arranged for breakfast when she made her appearance in the morning, inquired why she had been suffered to sleep while another had performed her duty. None of the transactions of the preceding night had left the slightest

impression on her mind—a sense of fatigue the following day being the only evidence furnished by her consciousness in confirmation of the testimony of those who saw her." It is added, "after this the paroxysms became more frequent, a week seldom passing without her getting up two or three times. Sometimes she did not leave her room, but was occupied in looking over the contents of her trunk, and arranging the different articles of dress. She occasionally placed things where she could not find them when awake, but some circumstances induced the belief that the knowledge of their situation was restored to her in a subsequent paroxysm. In one instance she disposed of her needle-book where she could not afterwards discover it; but after some time had elapsed, she was found one night in her chamber, sewing a ring on the curtain with a needle which she must have procured from the lost book. The entire paroxysm was sometimes passed in bed, where she sung, talked, and repeated passages of poetry."

The phenomenon is as wonderful as any upon record, and there seems to be no doubt of its authenticity.

15. *Professor Dewhurst's Grammar of Phrenology.* 8vo. pp. 24.

"A Skull Book," mapped out as usual, and proving phrenologically, that, as our crania regulate and direct our actions, every man must be a kind of Boney-part. An engraving prefixed, as usual to such performances, affords us a view of the "palace of the soul," with ground plan, sections, &c. &c. About the principal window we observe a prodigious march of the regiments of intellect, the 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 33, each with organ band; from which we infer that it is all, as we say in the Latin, *meus oculus*, or, in common English, All my eye.

16. *The Penny Magazine for Saturday, Dec. 6.* Published under the Direction of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge.

This being one of the "cheap" publications of the day, we have adventured to range it under the more correct title of "Dear Book." Penny-a-line contributions to newspapers have ever justly been reckoned the dearest, because the worst, of their miscellaneous contents; and readers may be assured that penny wisdom is precisely of the same character and description. Like shilling umbrellas, which you can buy in the dusk or dark at every corner of the streets, they admit only all that one would wish to keep out. The luckless purchaser's pocket is twelve pennies deficient, and his head not one penny the better for it.

17. *Poetical Works and Prose Remains of Henry Kirke White.* Magnet edit. Pp. 448. W. M. Clark.

Truly a "Cheap" and very acceptable edition of the remains of this amiable individual. A memoir and a portrait (though a poor one) adds to its interest.

18. *A Popular History of Priestcraft in all Ages and Nations.* By W. Howitt. 3d edition. Pp. 403. Appendix, Vindication of the Writer. Pp. 28. London, E. Wilson.

"Some books are lies from end to end, And some great lies were never penned,"

says Burns; Mr. Howitt has managed both.

A more disgraceful work never issued from the press. Inconsistent with the character of the sect to which the writer belongs; and fit only for the low and filthy pot-house where factious ribaldry and bold falsehood are mingled in large measure with the other filth and poison of the congenial sphere. Is *Friend Howitt* a pot-house politician at Nottingham?

The volume opens with a poem; and the poem opens with these words:

"Oh Truth! immortal Truth, on what wild ground  
Still hast thou trod—"

and throughout his advertisement the writer proclaims his love of truth, and boasts of his truth, and re-boasts of his truth. And yet, speaking of Mary Howitt's "Seven Temptations," he has the effrontery thus to allude to the *Literary Gazette*:

"Let me call the particular attention of all my readers to the following criticism on this volume by the *Literary Gazette*. It was the first which appeared, and I give it *verbatim* and entire. It is of no consequence to the work itself, the reputation of its authors being beyond the malice of a paper whose character is now pretty well understood; but the public cannot be too widely and completely informed of the fitness and capacity of those who presume to set themselves up as the guides and illuminators of national taste.—W. HOWITT."

"We cannot congratulate the accomplished, and, on most occasions, delightful author of this volume, either on the design or the execution of this Heptalogy. The former is radically defective and vicious (!); and the latter, consequently, every way unworthy of her talents (!). The Spirit of Lying, Achab, goes upon the earth, to prove that the power of evil is superior to the power of God himself; and the very contest involves within it so inherent a character of *irreverence* (!), not to say *profanity* (!); that it is impossible to read the details without feelings of strong repugnance (!!). This being our opinion, we dismiss the work without an extract, and merely expressing our regret at its publication. It is too dull and trite to do good (!!!), too poor as a composition (!!!), though there are a few poetical passages, to add a laurel to Mary Howitt's justly high reputation; and the frequent and palpable use of the Deity (!), independently of lightly invoking his name (!), (if not taking it in vain) (!!!), revolve the same (!!!).—*Literary Gazette*, Feb. 15."

"Let the reader now compare these very amiable and profound remarks with the following opinions, from independent and honourable journals, and with the book itself."

Mr. Howitt then quotes against us more favourable opinions of the book; but, as it is already buried in oblivion, we shall merely wish him joy of that independent and judicious aid which the public has so totally failed to recognise. But it is to the base aspersion upon us that we would call attention; the utterly false imputation of "malice;" when the utterer of that untruth knew that both his own and Mary Howitt's letters to us are full of acknowledgments for kindnesses rendered to their publications and to the benefits conferred upon them.\*

Why, because we did not think the *Seven Temptations* deserving, and honestly said so, are we to be held up by this devotee of Truth, as malicious and as destitute of character as our accuser? Let him look to his "Lies Book;" and beware of such shameful ingratitude.

19. *The Pernicious Effects of Sea Insurance.*

Pp. 22. Kirkaldy. London, E. Wilson. Alas! this is sorrowfully "a Deep Book," for it is a horrid exposition of the murders committed on the deep, deep sea for the sake of receiving the amounts insured on worthless vessels. Perjury leads the way, and noyades of multitudes of gallant seamen are annually perpetrated for the sake of this diabolical lure. The pamphlet is one of dreadful interest and importance.

20. *D. Booth's Analytical Dictionary.* Part V. 4to. London, Mason.

Every Part of this very able work which appears, adds greatly to our knowledge, and increases the reputation of the author. We only regret that they come out so slowly. The information in the present is curious and rich; though we find a difficulty in quoting enough to demonstrate the fact. We will, however, select a few passages.

\* We do not like to publish such things, but, in self-defence, we here subjoin the very letter which accompanied the work:

"The author of the *Seven Temptations* presents the accompanying unpublished copy to the editor of the *Literary Gazette*; and will feel particularly obliged by a continuance of that early and kind attention which he has always shown to her writings.—Nottingham, Feb. 6."

"The Greek *διφάξ*, *delphax*, signified a pig; and *διφίς*, *delphis*, was not only a dolphin, but a large lump of lead, or of iron, which was thrown upon an enemy's bark, for the purpose of sinking it. The commentators say (we know not upon what authority) that those masses of metal were moulded into the shape of a dolphin; but the rudely-shaped bars, which we call pig-iron and pig-lead, have certainly no resemblance to young swine. In the vegetable world, the association of the names of certain plants with that of the swine is, generally, derived from their effect as food for the animal, in the same way that wash, although in its origin meaning simple water, acquires the name of hogwash when mixed up with any thing that is nutritive to the hog. The boarhistle, however, a name sometimes given to the *Carduus lanceolatus*, or spearhistle, is more probably on account of the strength of its spines. Swinegrass is a way-faring prostrate annual, otherwise called knotgrass, on account of the number of joints on its creeping stems. It is the *Polygonum aviculare* of the botanists, and, probably, the species that gave the denomination to the genus: for *Polygonum* is a compound from the Greek *πολύ*, a knee, or joint. The specific name, *aviculare*, has been given because small birds (*avicule*) are fond of its seeds. The species of this genus are very numerous; and ten of them are known natives of this country. They are not, however, all knotgrasses; for the genera of the sexual system are characterised independently of the forms of the stem."

Again:

"The *Mustela erminea*, or stoat, is rather larger than the common weasel; has a fur of a reddish colour, except the tail, which is tipped with black. It is an inhabitant of cold countries, where it becomes white during the winter, and has then the name of ermine. The animal is frequently found in Scotland, both as a stoat and as an ermine; but the skins of the latter variety, which are alone valued, are procured from Norway, Lapland, and Siberia. The ermine furs of the middle ages were brought from Armenia, and hence the animals received their name. They were, at one time, called Armenian-weasels; and, at a still earlier period, Armenian-mice. The snowy whiteness of the fur caused it to be considered as the emblem of purity; it lined the state robes of magistrates and of kings. Ermined is covered with ermine. The furriers make a *spotted ermine*, by sewing upon the white skin small bits of the tails, which always remain black. It is in imitation of this practice (a very ancient one) that ermine in heraldry denotes the representation of a white field, or fur, interspersed with black spots, which is termed powdering. When each spot has a little red hair in it, the field has the designation erminites. A black field with white spots is counter-ermine, or ermines. When the field is sable, and the powdering or (yellow), it is pean; erminois is the opposite."

Again:

"Hay, Saxon *hæg*, is an old orthography of hedge; and those hays were palings surrounding a small spot of ground, and so managed that when the animals were enticed or driven into the snare, they could not find the way to escape. The hays for catching rabbits were nets. 'To dance the hay,' a phrase which we find in old English authors, was the dance of a party, having their hands linked together so as to form a ring, or enclosure. On examining the herd of deer, of whatever species, those bucks that were lean, and consequently worthless, were formerly called rascals. The word appears in Saxon dic-

tionaries; but that language has no kindred term. It was probably brought in by the Normans, with other phrases of the chase, and seems akin to the modern French *rascaille*, which signifies rubbish—what remains after every thing valuable is taken away,—and particularly the rabble, or outcasts of the people. Our present usage of the word rascal denotes a worthless fellow, who possesses no one virtue, and is consequently presumed to be capable of any vice. Fraud and deception are commonly associated with the term rascality; because the higher vices have more specific names. When we call a man a rascalion, we allude more directly to the tribe of wretches to which he belongs. Rascally is the adjective, and implies mean, sneaking villany."

And again,—

"The old English churl and the Dutch boor being so far alike, had ascribed to them similar characters; and therefore churlish, churlishly, and churlishness, with respect to rudeness and incivility, may be considered as equivalent to boorish, boorishly, and boorishness; but the state of the Saxon peasantry, as connected with that of their Norman conquerors, added to their character the ideas of obstinacy, selfishness, and avarice. A churl is understood to be a miser; and a mean, avaricious wretch has been called a curmudgeon, as if *curmudigan*, or *churl-minded*. Curmudgeonly, as an adjective, and churlly for churlish, are in the dictionaries. The peasant's dog was called a cur; and under this designation were comprehended all dogs of anomalous breeds, otherwise termed mongrels, or mungrels, from the verb 'to mingle,' because the several varieties were not properly preserved from intermixture. The cur-dog (or churl's dog) was supposed by the Norman to partake of the qualities as well as of the name of his master. He was not only of a worthless breed, but he was ill-tempered and of a morose disposition, as is expressed by the words currish, currishly, and currishness. It is from such ill-bred animals that we have many of our expressions that are allusive and degrading to the canine race. Obstinacy is particularly understood in the epithets dogged (or doggish), doggedly, and doggedness; and snappish, snappishly, and snappishness, so frequently employed to designate hastiness and irritation of temper, is obviously derived from the unexpected biting, or snapping at the passengers, as practised by an ill-mannered cur. To snap is to catch at greedily; it is also said of any material, such as a rope, when it breaks short unexpectedly, that it snaps. These words are akin to the verb 'to nip.' Surly, surlyly, and surliness, though generally referred by etymologists to the word sour, always recall to mind the threatening looks of a churlish or ill-natured dog. Shakespeare uses doghearted for unpitiful. To brood over an imagined injury is to take it in dudgeon—to be in dudgeon. According to the forest laws, which were made by the Normans, all dogs that did not belong to the lord of the manor were ordered to be mutilated, by having their ears cropped, or their tails shortened. Such were called curials, or curtal-dogs, from the obsolete word *curt* (Latin *curtus*, short), and the French *tailleur* to cut; and the same name (curtal) was formerly given to a horse whose tail was cut, or what we call docked. The modern orthography is curtail; and to curtail is to shorten in general, by lopping off a portion. A literary work, for example, is abridged by the curtailment of its redundancies.

"Puppies whine until a certain age, when

they yelp—a short and rapidly repeated cry of anger, which is also the practice of little dogs. The stronger dogs bark with a louder noise, which we endeavour to express by the letters bow-wow. When in pain they howl, which howling is a lengthened dismal cry. Some are accustomed to growl, which they do by uttering a low, murmuring, and discontented sound; while others shew their snappish temper by snarling. To snarl, or gnarl, is to draw up the nose and utter a sound between the teeth, like to the rough pronunciation of the letter R, therefore called the dog's-letter, 'nar nar.' It is in reference to these several sounds that we speak of men as growlers, or snarlers. A set of ancient philosophers, who despised and scoffed at riches, science, and the arts—every thing except morality—were termed Cynics, from the Greek *κύων*, a dog; they were snarlers. Diogenes was of this sect. A man of a capitious temper is cynical; he behaves cynically, or with cynicism.

Surely, teaching us so much as these specimens indicate, we are justified in designating this to be a "Wise Book."

*The Day-Dreamer; a Poem.* By Vigilus Somnoza. 8vo. pp. 96. London, Major.

IN our last No. we had the pleasure of noticing the productions of an American poet; and it is always an agreeable task to us to cultivate those kindly feelings which refining and congenial pursuits are sure to generate among the people of two countries, even though a wide Atlantic roll between them. The present performance, though published in England, is also the work of an American, and written in America, and descriptive of American and Indian scenery and habits. It possesses many traits of very considerable poetical merit; and is disfigured by some blemishes of composition and structure, which we are sure the author possesses talent enough to avoid in any future effort. With these brief remarks we shall present him *in propria verba* to our readers. Like "Don Juan," or rather "Childe Harold," whose style he has adopted, he paints his early aspiration when smitten with the love of song and the love of love: he tells us:—

"I roam'd, at other times,  
Painting through the labyrinth of Love,  
Painting the Ariadne of my rhymes  
In those deep, glowing, sanguine tints, which prove  
That youth's carnation morn but slowly climbs  
Above life's dark horizon,—that we move,  
At first, in a false dawn of idealty,  
And find it but the haze of dim reality.  
But all our dreams are bright! Oh! even yet  
I see the image of those long, dark curls  
Catch struggling sunbeams in their glossy net,  
And clasp a face in their meandering twirls  
Like a bright cameo begirt with jet:  
And then those lips, with blazonry of pearls,  
Smiling a soul upon that lovely face—  
(But hold—'m now becoming common-place.)

Now I was whirl'd into the deep abyss  
Of a refusal positive; and now  
A smile would elevate me into bliss,  
Embody all the monkey in a bow,  
Or turtle in the endearment of a kiss;  
Then came the fervour of a lover's vow—  
That cold but warning angling of the heart,  
All kindling but the asbestos of a flirt."

In these and other stanzas our author has caught more of the spirit as well as the manner of Byron than most of his native imitators or followers. As is almost invariable with American writers, even in this love-story of an Indian maid, Capt. Hall and Mrs. Trollope are introduced and commented upon. Somnoza says he wished to travel; and, among other reasons adduced, he states:—

"I also wish'd some prejudice to lose,  
By which the mind in early life is chur'd—  
That variation of our needle, whose  
Point is the same to all who roam the world:

I wish'd to see mankind's broad banner loose  
O'er all the nations of the earth unfur'd—  
Enlisting Captain H—, perchance, to write  
Like a wise man and a cosmopolite  
This captain, follow'd by one Mistress T—,  
Drove, through the filthiest by-lanes of our land,  
His dirt-cart at a most impetuous gallop,  
Stopping but to collect the compost, and  
Into his vehicle to heap it all up.  
To be transported, since 'tis in demand,  
Across the ocean, to manure the mould  
Of aristocracy, worn somewhat old.  
But the journalist is like some leech,  
Which, with a skin-full of corrupted blood,  
And of each nauseous humour within reach  
Of an insatiate thirst for fetid food,  
Becomes distended to the utmost stretch,  
And, falling in the hands of some right shrewd  
Reviewer, by the tail is seized about,  
And all its contents squeezed and squirted out."

Not in very good taste any where, and much out of place in a poem like that of "Coolanona"; some of the poetical beauties of which we now proceed to select. On leaving home, it is graphically and naturally expressed:—

"At last I went. Each object, upon starting,  
Seem'd some snake taken to bequest to me  
Of separation. Darkness, now departing,  
Dandled the rosy morning on her knee.  
Those good old trees, that kept the sun from darning  
On many a youthful pastime, wept to see  
Their once gay little master roam away;  
And as I went, they dropt me many a spray.  
E'en the rough hills appear'd to stoop, that I  
Might easier climb their shaggy shoulders. Valleys fair—  
Dimples that in the cheek of nature lie—  
Smil'd on me as I pass'd them. Ay, and there  
Was one lone, lovely cloud upon the sky,  
That deeply blush'd—sweet virgin of the air!—  
And came to bid her lover an adieu,  
Then vanish'd in her chamber deep and blue.  
And as I pass'd the mead I saw the lark—  
That form of winged light and soaring, mount  
To usher me along. And I did mark  
The little rill, fresh from its warbling fount,  
That sung itself to light out of a dark  
Thick-tangled brake—when, leaping to surmount  
Its banks, it caught my image passing by,  
And clasp'd it with a kiss of thrilling melody.  
And when I stood upon the last high hill  
That overlook'd the garden of my youth,  
I turn'd. Thence I beheld how deep and still,  
And blue, my distant home appear'd—in sooth,  
It seem'd mix'd up with heaven. There came one thrill  
O'er my frame—one aching thrill, in truth;  
I heav'd one sigh, one burning tear I shed,  
One long, last gaze I took—and turn'd away my head!  
Oh, home! thou art our mother!—and the heart  
Which can forget the bosom of thy hills,  
The soft lap of thy vales, the lips apart  
Of thy sweet-singing, slumber-breathing rills,—  
The tresses of thy trees all twin'd athwart  
With blossoms—should be torn out by the bills  
Of ravens in the vale; and, hovering o'er it,  
At last the fierce young eagle should devour it."

He tells us fancifully, that the details of his wandering

"Would spin out my relation  
As long as many a congress-hall oration,  
And almost as diversified.—A speech  
Made on the floor of Congress, if spread out  
In its extent, as in its themes, would stretch  
Over the globe—nay, in a graceful knot  
Might be festoon'd upon the stars, and reach  
To the last bounds of space, or girl about  
Immensity itself, in width and height,  
In folds too flimsy to arrest the sight.  
Now, in the midst of woods all wild and calm,  
Where the old, hoary Wilderness spreads out  
His shaggy magnitude, at last I came  
To what appear'd the most enchanting spot  
That heaven's blue eye beholds, which, like a lamb  
Couching between the pines and brindled throat  
Of a tremendous lion, seem'd at rest  
In the rough arms of Wilderness compress'd."

On this spot, where

"On the summit stood a jutting rock,  
From which descended, thin, upon the air,  
A fall of water, like the silver  
Of some old hoary minstrel's scanty hair,  
Who strikes upon his harp a tale of truth  
Before some maid just blossoming into youth.  
And all beyond this vista, far and wide,  
Was but a picture of repose and love:  
Here a green hill, upon whose gentle side  
Spreads the thick foliage of a fragrant grove;  
A river there is slowly seen to glide,  
And there a brook with brisker pace to rove,  
As glittering through the long thick grass it dashes,  
Like a bright eye that sparkles through its lashes."

He encountered the lovely heroine of his tale,

of whose description we shall copy but a slight feature, as an example of the whole.

"In her soft cheek Youth just begins to dawn!  
Her varying lip—that Proteus of the soul—  
Now swells into the ripest love—anon  
Dilates into a smile—then o'er the whole  
Fear casts a shroud, and all their glow is gone;  
Or Pity parts them with a soft control;  
Or they are arch'd, like Dian's bow, with wit,  
Whose pointed arrows never fail to hit."

Upon the sequel of the history, his residence among the Indians, their wars and adventures, and the final catastrophe, we shall not encroach; for if we have awakened any interest therein by our quotations, the *Day-Dreamer* is very easily within the acquirement of the public. But we cannot critically dismiss it without pointing out some of the errors which the author has permitted to injure its polish and general effect. Many of his rhymes in the most striking places, the conclusions of stanzas, &c. are altogether absurd and unallowable. For instance, half a dozen:—

"The interlacing strings were left to dangle  
About her round, smooth, slender, ivory ankle."

"I saw our mother, on its pictured leaf,  
And then I turn'd to seek a lovelier Eve."

"I love a tall girl better by the half,  
Though, be it known, I'm mighty low myself."

"Might wear them for a glorious diadem—  
(Oh! heaven, how proud I'd be if I had 'em!)"

"Convers'd in haughty mood, who, suddenly  
Springing upon his steed, rush'd—bounded—flew away!"

"Those lungs, that with a young wife did good service,  
Can scarcely raise a blush (when old) on her face."

This is sad work, indeed; and we shall merely add, that throughout there is no attention whatever paid to the time or tense of the verbs—the past becomes present, and the present past, as it may happen, in alternate lines. To finish, we suspect that even towards the Southern States, where the weather is so hot that, according to Guy Rivers, the solder of kettles made in the north melts in its fervency, the following would be reckoned too combustible:—

"Our love was fervid, mutual, deep, intense:  
We lived but in the atmosphere of love,  
And almost breath'd each others' breath, so dense  
So warm, so long our kisses,—while each move  
Served but to make more exquisite the sense—  
The burning of the moment—the eye's rove—  
The lip's voluptuous glow—the thrill—the bliss—  
The pressure—the combustion of a kiss!  
Her bosom's swell would heave beneath my eye,  
Like the round ocean to the moon."

From such temptations, in city or in wilderness, in crowds or in solitudes, with whites or whitey-browns, let us all pray to be delivered! the last figure would have made a proper allegorical frontispiece, had the publishers been Moon and Boys! but they have dissolved partnership, and Moon is alone, shining near the bank; while Hodgson is joined to Boys, and the firm, as before, alas! however young these names sound, terminates, like all human things, in Graves.

*The Naturalist's Library, Vol. VI. Ornithology, Vol. IV. Gallinaceous Birds, Part II. Game Birds.* By Sir W. Jardine, Bart., F.R.S.E., F.L.S., &c. 12mo. pp. 172. Edinburgh, Lizars; Stirling and Kennedy: London, Higley: Dublin, Curry, jun. and Co.

ILLUSTRATED with thirty-one beautiful coloured plates, and prefaced by a memoir and portrait of Sir T. S. Raffles, this volume continues the series to which it belongs in a manner which must gratify every lover of natural science. As its appearance has been somewhat procrastinated, we are glad to learn that succeeding volumes of great promise are in so forward a state of preparation as to forbid the fear of such temporary lapses in future. Among these, the "Natural History of Pigeons" (Co-



*lumbida*), by Mr. Selby, of Twizell, will be looked for as a delightful acquisition; nor will the "Natural History of Beetles" (*Coleoptera*), by the Rev. Mr. James Duncan, be an unworthy addition to these fine and accurate performances.

Of the present volume we may say, that though it is "*toujours perdrix*," it is so far from cloying, that we really think we could feed on game always, and with much satisfaction. In the scientific part we are informed, that "in the arrangement of these birds, Mr. Swainson has pointed out what he considers may be the typical forms, although he thinks that a little examination is still necessary. They are *Perdix*, *Tetrao*, *Cryptonix*, *Oryzopsis*, and *Crypturus*." A singular instance of their conrage is related by Mr. Selby in his "British Ornithology."

"Their parental instinct, indeed (he relates), is not always confined to mere devices for engaging attention; but where there exists a probability of success, they will fight obstinately for the preservation of their young, as appears from many instances already narrated by different writers, and to which the following may be added, for the truth of which I can vouch. A person engaged in a field, not far from my residence, had his attention arrested by some objects on the ground, which, upon approaching, he found to be two partridges, a male and female, engaged in battle with a carrion-crow: so successful and so absorbed were they in the issue of the contest, that they actually held the crow till it was seized and taken from them by the spectator of the scene. Upon search, the young birds (very lately hatched) were found concealed amongst the grass. It would appear, therefore, that the crow, a mortal enemy to all kinds of young game, in attempting to carry off one of these, had been attacked by the parent birds, and with the above singular success. Such displays are, however, comparatively seldom witnessed, or, indeed, exercised; for nature has implanted another device in the greater numbers of this family, in which the organs of defence are in reality weak against their many assailants, both animal and feathered. Stratagem is resorted to, and the parent feigns lameness and even death to withdraw the aggressor. The noise and confusion which occur when a person suddenly and unawares comes on a young brood of partridges, is remarkable. The shrieks of the parents apparently tumbling and escaping away with broken legs and wings is well acted, and often succeeds in withdrawing the dog and his young attendant beyond the possibility of discovering the hiding-places of the brood. When this is attained, their wonted strength is soon recovered, a flight to a considerable distance is taken; but by the time the aggressor has reached the marked spot, the bird has again circuitously come up with her charge, and is ready to act her part if again discovered."

The accounts of the experiments making to re-introduce the magnificent wood-grouse, or capercaillie, into the north of Scotland, and of its general habits, &c. are very interesting. We should think that many varieties of the *Perdix* might easily be naturalised in Great Britain—query, for the benefit of poachers?

It is careless to spell Buonaparte in two ways, "Buonaparte, p. 137, and Bonaparte, p. 129." Among the plates the *cryptonix coronatus* is very remarkable.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

Man, as known to us Theologically and Geologically, by the Rev. E. Nares, D.D., &c. &c. 12mo. pp. 255. (London, Rivington.)—This is somewhat of a desultory,

garrulous, and rambling volume, in which old stores of reading and learning are mingled with greater profusion than applicability of argument. In truth, we must confess that we cannot very clearly perceive what the worthy and venerable author aims at. He seems to be dissatisfied with certain parts and portions of our present geological knowledge, and certain opinions promulgated by various writers thereon; but, then, he does not differ from other and the latest and best reasoners on this science, nor hold that it impeaches the veracity of the Mosaic account of the creation, or the Scriptural history of the Deluge. All that we gather is, that he thinks the Bible sufficient authority, and that "it is manifestly of no use to explore the earth," although, in one of his more facetious moods, he naively tells us, that he does not "in any manner disdain the help of science, where it can fairly be shewn to *advance his purposes*!" This being the case, we shall only add, that there appears to us to be much brought from excellent ancient and modern books, which does not bear very strictly or strongly on the questions at issue.

*Curtis on the Preservation of Hearing*, &c. &c. Pp. 54. (London, Longman and Co.; Renshaw.)—W. Wright on *Aural Surgery*. Pp. 95. (London, Hurst.)—Who shall decide when aurists disagree? We shall not try, for we are so sick of the quackery practised, almost beyond all other branches, in this branch of surgical practice, that we must turn a deaf ear to them all. Mr. Wright professes the soothing system; but he is monstrous severe in his strictures on Mr. Curtis and others. Well, if the public will go on hearsay, without cautious inquiry, we do think it natural that the profession of *aurism* should prosper, or, as a cockney might say of a floral show-up of the rivals, that they were perfect auriculars.—Q. E. D.

#### ARTS AND SCIENCES.

##### THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

NO. VII.

EXPECTING some promised communications, more perfect in their details than our notes supplied, we have deferred for several weeks the continuation of our Report of the Proceedings at Edinburgh; but having been disappointed so long as not to feel assured that we may not be disappointed altogether, we deem it most expedient to resume the subject, and carry it to a conclusion in the best manner our own means enable us. We have, however, much satisfaction, in the first instance, in laying before the public a very complete and accurate statement of the Statistical Section—a Section of which we think it unlikely to have occasion for any future Report, since the organisation on so important a scale of the Association in London seems amply to have fulfilled, and to be competent to fulfil, all that was anticipated by the original proposal at Cambridge, and so far carried forward by the Edinburgh assembly.

At Edinburgh the proceedings of the new (sixth) Section commenced, as our readers are aware, with the appointment of a committee and officers, consisting principally, we believe, of all those members of the Statistical Society of London who had come to the meeting; to whom were added a number of distinguished Scots statisticians, and others connected with the publication of the "Statistical Account of Scotland," now issuing from the press,\* and the early parts of which we have reviewed in our journal.

Rooms in the College having been assigned to them, these gentlemen, and the investigators of this science, met every day at eleven o'clock, with Sir Charles Lemon or Colonel Sykes usually in the chair (twice or thrice we observed Lord Fitzwilliam, for short periods), and continued in reading papers and in discussion during several hours.

On the first day, Tuesday, Sept. 9, the Report of the Cambridge Meeting was read, which contained, among other matters, two recom-

mendations referable to this Section; and it was now stated as a result that, Colonel Sykes was proceeding with his statistical returns collected in India relative to the Deccan, but that they were not yet sufficiently matured to be laid before the Meeting. Also, that Professor Jones, in pursuance of the other recommendation, had applied for access to the archives of the East India Company, which had been liberally allowed; and he was now engaged in the researches so greatly facilitated by this accommodation.

It may here be mentioned that the Statistical Section was attended by deputies from several provincial Societies, as well as by intelligent individuals from many of our large towns, and nearly every county, all desirous to promote the efficiency of the transactions, and to devise the best and safest\* methods for procuring accurate statistical information from all quarters. Thus Mr. Benjamin Heywood, their president, appeared on behalf of a Statistical Society recently established at Manchester; and communicated a highly interesting paper (see a former *Lit. Gaz.* No. 921) drawn up for the information of that body: viz. a return, exhibiting the condition in 1834 of 4102 families of workmen in certain districts of the town. To effect this object, and to ensure the greatest possible accuracy, the Statistical Society of Manchester drew up a tabular form of inquiries for the whole population, and employed agents to go from house to house and obtain answers to the interrogations contained in each column. These answers shewed the number in family, and the condition of the dwelling—whether a house, lodging-room, or cellar, in which the inmates resided; the number of children and their ages; the occupations followed by the parents; the amount of rents; the religion professed; the aggregate earnings; the degrees of comfort exhibited in their habitations; and many other minute particulars:—

"From this document it appeared that the families amounted to nearly 20,000 persons, occupying 3110 houses, and 1002 cellars and apartments, of which only 639 were well furnished, 1551 were comfortably furnished, and the very large number of 2551 were described as uncomfortable—and, further, that out of the above number of 20,000 persons, 7789 received wages, and only 153 paid a rent exceeding four shillings a-week. The same paper stated that there were in the above district 8121 children under the age of twelve years, of whom only 252 attended day-schools, while 4680 attended Sunday-schools, and nearly half the children were without education. The number of parents who stated themselves to be able to read amounted to 3114."

Several gentlemen from Birmingham and Bristol made similar communications to the Section.

Sir John Sinclair having brought forward a lecture on agriculture and the means of promoting its improvement, considerable debate ensued; and a decision was come to of great value to the future government, utility, and prosperity of any Statistical Association, and such as our preceding note more distinctly recommends. It was, that "the Section, considering it to be the first and most essential

\* The following were the names:—"Chairman, Sir Charles Lemon, Bart.; Deputy-Chairmen, Colonel Sykes, Benj. Heywood, Esq.; Secretaries, Dr. Cleland, C. Hope Maclean, Esq.; Committee, Howard Elphinstone, Esq., Rev. E. Stanley, J. E. Drinkwater, Esq., Rev. W. Howell, the Earl Fitzwilliam, Sir John Sinclair, Bart., Sir Thomas Acland, Bart., John Kennedy, Esq., Captain Churchill, R. I. Murchison, Esq., John Vishaw, Esq., Dr. Chalmers, L. Horner, Esq., John Marshall, Esq., Neil Malcolm, Esq., Francis Clark, Esq."

\* It is obvious from the facility with which this useful branch of investigation could slide into political economy and politics generally, that much care must be taken with its direction. The same wisdom and prudence hitherto evinced in this respect will, we have every reason to think and hope, continue to guide the Society, whether in its large and permanent operations in London, or if again formed as a portion of the British Association, in its course as a separate Section of the annual meetings.—*Ed. L. G.*

rule of its conduct to confine its attention rigorously to facts, and, as far as it may be found possible, to facts which can be stated numerically, and arranged in tables, did not feel justified in entering upon the consideration of the contents of this paper."

On Wednesday, September 10th, a discussion took place on Mr. Heywood's paper, "in which several members from the large manufacturing towns in England, and from the mining districts of Cornwall and Wales, participated. The discussion turned principally upon the advantages of Sunday and infant schools, especially as shewn in the reaction on the habits of the parents of children attending them. Many instances of this were stated to be within the knowledge of members present, who had directed their attention to this subject. The possibility of ascertaining, by direct inquiry, the amount of the earnings of the poorer classes was discussed, and the difficulty of obtaining information of sufficient accuracy on this very important head was strongly pointed out by the fruitless attempts which had been made by the Statistical Society of Manchester, as also of Dr. Cleland in similar inquiries undertaken by him for the use of government. Mr. Taylor and his brother undertook, in conjunction with the Committee, to draw up a series of questions upon the condition and habits of the mining population in Cornwall and Wales, from which they hope to draw a complete account of the statistics of that class for the next meeting of the Association. The secretary next read an excellent paper relating to the statistics of Glasgow, drawn up by Dr. Cleland, and pointing out the great inaccuracies of the parochial registers, and adding instances which shewed that these are wholly inadequate to form the basis of a correct census. In the portion of this paper which related to the probability of human life in Glasgow, Dr. Cleland stated his belief that that city is a place of average health, and that no material variation in the rate of mortality had occurred between the years 1821 and 1831. He also found, as has been universally observed elsewhere, that in Glasgow there are more males born than females; but that, in every period above fifteen years of age, the proportion of living females always preponderates.†

A letter from Mr. Quetelet of Brussels to Professor Whewell was read, announcing the speedy publication of a work, the most interesting portion of which will be devoted to an examination of the law of population. Mr. Quetelet states his belief that he has succeeded in reducing the examination of this law to the discussion of mathematical formulæ, and that those at which he has arrived are in fact exactly similar in form to those employed in the planetary theory. Mr. Quetelet is aware how visionary this announcement may possibly appear, but requests that it may be tested by the close accordance between the calculated results and those furnished by observation in England, the United States, and elsewhere.

Thursday, Sept. 11th, the secretary read a

† Dr. Cleland printed this paper for the use of the Association, but, like many other matters, in the midst of the general bustle and confusion, we never heard of it till we had left Scotland and were too late to procure a copy. This circumstance, coupled with the others to which we have referred, induces us to suggest, as an obvious improvement at future meetings, that every member of the Association, leaving his name and address for that purpose with the secretary, should be served or furnished with every paper and notice connected with the occasion, paying, of course, if thought necessary, any small additional expense incurred through this proceeding. Those who desired to be well informed of all that was going forward would thus be gratified; and, instead of blundering about in ignorance and darkness, would really be taught what the Association to which they belonged was doing.—*Ed. L. G.*

description of the origin and progress of the new Statistical Account of Scotland, together with a statement of the circumstances which had induced the conductors of that work to undertake it. This elicited an animated discussion likely to prove very beneficial to its sale, the proceeds of which are to be applied exclusively to a charitable fund raised for the benefit of the Sons and Daughters of the Scottish Clergy. "It could not," says Mr. Maclean, to whose report to the London Institution (see *Lit. Gaz.* No. 932), as well as to Professor Jameson's (*Ed. Phil. Journal*), we are indebted for much help towards this article, "be otherwise than highly gratifying to the clergy of Scotland, at whose expense, and by whose gratuitous labour this admirable work is carried on, to find their contributions fully appreciated, and to listen to the useful observations and suggestions for the improvement of their work which fell from Earl Fitzwilliam, Lord Jeffrey, Sir Charles Lemon, the Right Hon. Holt Mackenzie, Dr. Cleland, and other members of the Section."

As it appeared to be the opinion of the speakers that the value of the work would be materially enhanced both to the general reader and to the statist, if more minute details of the article of produce and of the local peculiarities which distinguish one parish or part of the country from another were furnished, the sanction of the General Committee of the Association was obtained, and a Committee of the Section was empowered to open a communication with the conductors of the work, with authority to draw up and circulate such a set of queries as they should agree upon: and in this arrangement these reverend gentlemen cheerfully acquiesced.\*

In his remarks on this subject, Lord Fitzwilliam expressed his desire that the statements should shew "not only the total amount of land in cultivation, but also the quantities allotted at the time of the inquiry to the various kinds of produce, the number and value of agricultural implements, the number of draught and other cattle, and other similar details. His lordship stated that he had succeeded in obtaining the returns from some parishes in his own neighbourhood, and suggested that accurate and minutely detailed information from only a small number of places would furnish more safe general inferences than could be obtained from a much more widely extended, but less precise, inquiry. Mr. Stanley thought there would be considerable difficulty in procuring such minute details, chiefly arising from the jealousy of the land occupiers; but undertook to prosecute such an inquiry in his own parish, and to furnish the results at the next meeting. Dr. Brunton thought that no such difficulty would occur among the tenantry of Scotland; and stated, that the thing proposed had been already done with commendable minuteness, as might be seen on turning to any of the parochial accounts already published. Col. Sykes stated, that the returns which he had himself collected in the Deccan embraced the stock and implements, and land in cultivation, and that the village constitution in India afforded peculiar facilities for obtaining minute information on all these points. Mr. Holt Mackenzie remarked, it was most desirable that statistical statements should be always the result of accumulated facts rather than of computation; for that statements of computation

\* A letter from the celebrated Dr. Chalmers was read, in which he regretted that the state of his health prevented his being present to take a part in a meeting the success of which he had so much at heart.

were only approximations to the mark, and in many cases lead to absolute error.

Friday, Sept. 12th, Mr. Drinkwater gave an account of the origin and present state of the Statistical Society of London; which has so strengthened and increased within the few months since elapsed, that we need go back to the history of its comparative infancy. "Captain Maconochie gave an account of M. Guerry's '*Essai sur la Statistique Morale de la France*,' and pointed out some of its most striking results, illustrated by several maps of France, coloured with different shades, so as to indicate the comparative amount of instruction and of crime against persons and property. He also explained from what data these maps had been constructed, bearing testimony to the absolute freedom of M. Guerry from any bias towards particular systems. It appears, by a comparison of six following years, if the whole of France be divided into five several divisions or regions, that the proportion of all the crimes committed in France which belong to each region is very nearly the same from year to year; in no case differing from the mean by more than  $\frac{1}{10}$  in crimes against persons, and  $\frac{1}{15}$  in crimes against property. Capt. Maconochie then went through a great many very interesting details with respect to the various districts of the country, the sex, the ages, and the season of the year, at which different crimes are found to prevail. M. Guerry confirms what has been already remarked by Mr. Quetelet in Belgium, that the summer months are much more productive of crimes against persons, and the winter of crimes against property. It appears that crimes against property are three times as numerous as crimes against the person. M. Guerry sees no reason to believe that crime is increasing in France, but justly remarks, that a more vigilant police, and greater publicity given to those crimes which are committed in later times, may have given rise to this opinion. It is also necessary, especially in comparing distant epochs, to notice changes in the institutions and laws of the country. M. Guerry mentions the large and increasing number of second accusations, but observes, that a man once condemned to the galleys seldom renders himself liable a second time to that punishment. Almost every crime is committed more frequently by men than women: crimes against children are equally divided between the two sexes. In 100 crimes against persons, men commit 86 and women only 14: in crimes against property, men commit 79 and women 21. Two-fifths, or nearly half, of all the crimes committed by women against the person are infanticides. The greatest ignorance in France is on the west coast and in the centre, and not in the south, as has been supposed; the same districts shew the least amount of crime. The greatest amount of crime is in Corsica and Alsace. In both sexes, the greatest number of crimes is committed between the ages of twenty-five and thirty, which short period embraces nearly one-fifth of the whole. It is impossible to give an accurate notion of the various interesting comparisons given in this work, without extending this report too far. M. Guerry concludes by warning his readers not to be too hastily led away to the conclusion, that education has a tendency to develop instead of repressing crime, remarking, that the utmost limit warranted by his observations is, that education is a mighty instrument, powerful either for good or evil, according as it is directed; and that unless, whilst we inform the intellect, we also take pains to cultivate the moral sentiments, and to touch the affections

of the heart, we bestow only a doubtful advantage on its object."

After this, Mr. Auldjo read an analysis of "Potindro's work on the revenue and population of the kingdom of Naples, referring to that part of the kingdom lying north of the Straits of Messina, giving details of the state of the population and the public institutions. They also shew the number of landed proprietors, renters of land, labourers, and paupers. An examination of the revenue shewed it to be in a prosperous state, and that the funded debt of the nation would probably be redeemed in fifteen years.

"The secretary read a paper by Mr. Murray, on the different rates of mortality in the higher and lower classes of society, shewing that the author's observations agreed with those of Dr. Villermé in representing the most opulent classes as the longest lived. Mr. Murray hoped to lay the details of his observations before the next meeting of the Association. These remarks gave rise to some discussion, in the course of which Mr. Humby observed, that in Lancashire and Cheshire those receiving the highest wages in manufacturing towns were often improvident and dissipated, and consequently short-lived.

"The secretary read a paper by Mr. Grut, on the tables which have been recently published by the Equitable Insurance Office in London, pointing out the vast importance of the results that might be obtained from the experience of other similar Societies, and suggesting schedules of inquiries that might with advantage be submitted to them; adding a list of insurance offices in London and various parts of the country, with the dates of their establishment."

In concluding this paper, which embodies the gist of the statistical proceedings to the present period (and which we, therefore, hope will gratify the growing interest with which they are viewed, and importance attached to them as laying sure foundations for beneficial legislation and good government), we have only to add that Dr. Cleland's essay contained some curious particulars respecting the paupers of Glasgow, and the expense of maintaining them; but what will the English reader think when we mention a fact of the same kind which we learned in Edinburgh, namely, that, so ably are the poor-laws administered there, the maintenance of the paupers in the largest parish, the West Kirk, amounts to no more than tenpence-halfpenny for each individual in the workhouse per week? Nor be it thought that they are starved or ill-treated: on the contrary, we were assured that the whole was the result of careful management and the comparative cheapness of provisions—so that the poor were healthy, and fed as well as the labouring peasantry of the country. What a contrast to an English workhouse, and the allowances to English paupers!

#### SOCIETY OF ARTS.

DR. BIRKBECK on the preservation of timber and other vegetable substances.—This was an able exposition of Mr. Kyan's discovery for preventing dry rot, mildew, and decay in timber, canvass, cordage, &c. We have so frequently directed public attention to this principle, that it would now be quite a work of supererogation to say a word on the subject more than to repeat, that a saturated solution of corrosive sublimate, into which the material is placed for a short time, completely preserves it from future decay. Dr. Birkbeck, however, in his admirable address, threw together such a number of instructive observations on vegetable

physiology, in reference to the original or natural cause of decay in timber, that it would be improper to pass them in silence. After a cursory review of the fallacious principles of Reid, Jackson, Lewis, Langton, and others, the lecturer noticed the discovery of Berzelius and Fourcroy (an improvement on that of Sir H. Davy), relative to the preserving properties of tannin, illustrating it by an experiment with a portion of animal gelatine and oak tannin, which produced a precipitate possessing all the principles sought after. The passage of fluid through a woody structure had been clearly demonstrated by De Candolle, and other vegetable anatomists; nay, water found its way through the pores with even greater facility than air; besides, there was the *albumen*, a constituent of vegetable as well as animal substances, distinguished by its property of coagulating when heated, and the *albumum*, a soft white substance between the inner bark and the wood of trees: these might be considered the natural sources of decomposition. The albumen was more readily decomposed than other parts of the wood; and it had a germinating principle in itself—a soil fitted for the production of the *monas*, and others of the *infusoria* order, observed by Ehrenberg, 500,000,000 of which might be contained in a square inch: these insects were minute enough to find their way throughout the texture of the wood. Again, Count Romford found, do all he could—and he tried many experiments to expel both air and water—that only  $\frac{1}{3}$  parts of wood were solid matter, the others being water. How apparent and necessary was it then to effect a vacuum as regarded air and water, and to render the albumen, &c. not decomposable! This was the chief end of Mr. Kyan's valuable discovery. Many well-authenticated specimens of prepared and unprepared materials, deposited for years in the fungus-pit at Woolwich, which possesses such a villanous compound of air that it was remarked neither animal nor vegetable life continued in it, were produced; the effects of mildew and rot were as obvious in the latter as their total absence was wonderful in the former.

#### GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

SIR GEORGE MURRAY in the chair.—Another short letter from Captain Back to Mr. Barrow was read, (see last *Lit. Gaz.*)—Instead of the remaining portion of Major Felix's account of his journey to Mount Sinai being read, there was substituted a communication made to Captain Sabine by Mr. Douglass, who, our botanical friends will recollect, left England some years ago, and has since been botanising in the Sandwich Islands. The paper is chiefly filled with particulars of certain journeys to the volcanic mountains. With the exception of *ferns*, the beauty of which, springing from the lava, is mentioned by the writer, there were few or no other specimens met with. He describes the sound produced by these volcanoes as surpassing the noise of "the whole steam-engines of the universe." His last sleeping elevation was upwards of 10,000 feet; he occasionally suffered severely from heat, his eyelids being scorched and literally dried up. Although we paid considerable attention to the paper, no analysis can be given, it is so mixed up with details geological, botanical, barometrical, &c. Sir G. Murray then presented the royal premium to Lieut. Burnes, observing that such an act was one of the most pleasing duties of a chairman. He animadverted on the travels

of Lieutenant Burnes, which were of the most interesting character, whether viewed in reference to the classical recollections of ancient history, or in connexion with the more modern and momentous concerns of this empire. To trace the course of the Indus was Lieut. Burnes's first object—water communication through the midst of a great country being properly considered of the highest importance to its inhabitants, as regarded their commerce, their manufactures, their arts, and last, not least, their religion; especially so in those states where the population was in comparative ignorance and degradation. After noticing Lieutenant Burnes's exploration of the Oxus, Sir George observed that he felt particularly gratified at the circumstance, that no branch of the public service was more prominent in fostering and bringing forward talent than the service of the East India Company, to which Lieutenant Burnes belonged. Aided by the Company, and by the vigour of his native character, the energy of his mind, his daring courage, his classical knowledge and store of science, he pursued his journey to central Asia, passed from Cabool to Bokhara, pushing his discoveries into a country interesting to all Englishmen, and making many important corrections of errors in the geography of the East. By the patient perseverance and sound judgment which he displayed, he made his way through a barbarous country, which would have baffled any other man less endowed.

Lieutenant Burnes, in return, addressed the meeting. He felt very grateful for the honour and approbation bestowed on him by the Geographical Society. Many travellers, he observed, had gone part of the same route before him, on their own account; he, however, had been stimulated, assisted, and protected by the East India Company: through its great political influence he was enabled to proceed with safety over his extended route. He was exceedingly pleased to see around him many gallant officers of that service, who had been his companions in arms and in early life. After running over the course of his travels, Lieutenant Burnes stated, that when in the midst of the deserts of Tartary, in company with Mr. Moorcroft, he received a letter from a French gentleman at Lahore, together with the *East India Gazette*, in which was an account of the Geographical Society of London, setting forth its anxiety to promote the exploration of central Africa: the receipt of the information gladdened the hearts of the travellers, and added new life to them in their perilous undertaking. In conclusion, Lieutenant Burnes said he was altogether inadequate to the task of properly expressing the high sense he entertained of the notice and kindness conferred upon him.

The meeting was very numerously attended. Several members were elected.

#### GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

MR. GREENOUGH, president, in the chair.—The reading of Mr. Darwin Rogers's paper, on the geology of the central and western portions of North America, was resumed and concluded. A communication by Mr. de la Becke was afterwards read, on the anthracitic formation near Bideford; and a paper by Mr. Allan Cunningham on the physical and geological structure of the country between Newcastle (New South Wales) and the Dividing Ridge in 28° 3' south lat. and 152° 24' east long. was commenced.



## LITERARY AND LEARNED.

## ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

THE first general meeting of this Society, for the present session, was held on the 6th instant; Sir Alex. Johnston, V.P., in the chair. A great number of donations, received during the vacation, were laid upon the table; among these were a very curious pack of Hindu playing-cards, presented by Mr. Moslin. The pack consists of eight suits, each having twelve cards of a circular form, viz. a king, a wazir, and spots from one to ten. In these suits the king is the highest, and the wazir the second. The suits are divided into two classes: in the first, after the king and the wazir, the highest numbers, from ten to one, are most powerful. In the second, the lowest numbers, from one to ten, are most powerful.—From Sir Henry Willock, eight casts from the sculptured ruins of Persepolis, and a brick and a whistle from Babylon. From Miss Forbes, daughter of Gen. Forbes, two well-executed drawings, by a Maltese artist: one of the ruins of an ancient building on the island of Gazo, and the other a copy from "Newnham's Antiquities of Ireland," representing a ruin called *Augh na Clough Mullin*, and very much resembling the former. From Miss Emma Roberts, her "Oriental Scenes." From Colonel Colebrooke, specimens of *Paddy*, or rice in the husk; two madrepores from the coast of Ceylon; wax from the cinnamon-bush; and models of a palanquin, a double-bottomed boat, and various implements. From the Right Hon. Henry Ellis, a French translation of "*Egidius Romanus de Regimine Principum*," supposed to have been written about the close of the fourteenth century; also a very curious Syriac MS. From Professor Rosellini, the third volume and plates of his very interesting work on Egypt and Nubia. From Captain Seymour Burt, a curiously formed shirt worn by the Assassins. From Sir Alexander Johnston, "Jacquemont's Letters from India, translated into English," &c. &c.—Members were elected.

The paper read was a communication from Mr. W. C. Taylor, "On the present state and future prospects of Oriental Literature, viewed in connexion with the Royal Asiatic Society." The author commenced by a rapid sketch of the progress of oriental literature, from the time of Alexander the Great to the establishment of the British empire in India. He asserted that the plans of the Macedonian conqueror were manifestly devised by an enlightened mind, and that, had Alexander's life been spared, he would have been remembered as the benefactor, not the scourge, of the human race. The dynasty of the Ptolemies was the only one among the successors of Alexander that continued to unite Europe and Asia by the bonds of commerce. In Alexandria were to be found representatives of all the religious creeds and all the philosophic sects of the east and west. Hence, when the progress of Christianity directed the attention of the Greeks and Romans to the religion of Asia, the schools of Alexandria acquired an importance which had a fatal effect on the purity of the Christian faith; for the philosophers attempted to unite the simple doctrines of the Gospel with the dark and mysterious speculations of the east. It seemed not improbable that utter weariness of the violence and folly of heresiarchs prepared the way for that abject submission to authority which so long characterised the Christian church. The sudden rise and wondrous extension of the Saracenic empire attracted less attention to oriental literature than might have

been expected; but it began to be extensively cultivated when the progress of science, under the patronage of the Khaliphs, had placed the Arabs at the head of the intellectual world. The reformation, by directing public attention to the original language of the Scriptures, revived the study of the Hebrew and its cognate dialects, usually called the Semitic family of languages. The increase of the Levantine trade in England was followed by a more zealous study of Arabic and Persian literature; but this led to an error not yet completely exploded, namely, the belief that these literatures were the substance of all the literary treasures of the east; and that oriental literature was a uniform something compounded of the Bible and the Arabian Nights' Entertainments; as great a mistake as if European literature had been supposed single, made up by a blending of *Paradise Lost* with *Don Quixote*. He attributed the prevalence of more correct notions at present to the establishment of an Asiatic Society in Bengal, and shewed that such a Society was necessary, both on account of the extent and variety of oriental literature, and also on account of the errors to which individual investigators are liable. The author dwelt at great length on the advantages and importance of the cultivation of oriental literature to the British nation, as regarded our mighty empire in India and our extensive commercial relations with the east. He shewed how much had been done, and how much remained to be done, in the investigation of the geography, statistics, and natural history of the countries with which we are connected; and declared that if the importance of the Royal Asiatic Society were fully understood, it would have "a branch in every sea-port and a member in every counting-house."

## SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

THE sword which we noticed in our last report of the proceedings of this Society was presented by Mr. Henry Herman Kater: it is a curious relic, and we hope its date and origin will be successfully investigated.

## CHELTENHAM LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL INSTITUTION.

THE monthly meeting of this Society took place on Tuesday evening, Dr. Boisragon, president, in the chair.—The Rev. George Bonner, L.L.B. delivered an eloquent lecture; the subject of which was, "A general and popular view of the state of the Fine Arts in this country." At the close of the lecture, the thanks of the meeting to Mr. Bonner were voted by acclamation.—Mr. Walter has undertaken to deliver three lectures on the "History of Germany, from the earliest period to the times of Arminius."

## BIBLIOTHECA HEBERIANA, PART IV.

The sale of this part, comprising the most extensive and rare collection of early English poetry ever brought together, commenced on Monday, the 8th inst. at Mr. Evans's auction-room, Pall Mall. Although the books have not produced the extraordinary high prices they did about the period of the Roxburgh sale, yet few of them have sold at what may be termed low; and, considering so many collectors have departed this life within a few years, the biddings have commenced and continued with spirit by the few collectors who remain. Great credit is due to the conductors of the British Museum in securing many unique works, and much praise is also due to Mr. Baber for his discriminating judgment in selecting them.

No. 21 sold for 17l. 5s.; No. 43, for 10l.; No. 69, for 10l.; No. 90, for 18l. 7s. 6d.; No. 141, for 24l. 10s.; No. 144, for 14l. 14s.; No. 149, for 12l. 15s.; No. 150, for 10l.; No. 157, for 24l. 10s.; No. 158, for 63l.; No. 160, for 19l. 5s.; No. 161, for 21l. 10s.

Of the numerous Breten Pieces, No. 164 produced the highest price, 16l. 5s.; No. 163, 14l. 14s.; No. 165, 12l. 5s.; No. 199, 32l.; No. 200, 49l. Chapman's Pieces varied from 12l. 5s. (No. 339) to 2l. 1s. (No. 342). The numerous Churchyard Pieces varied from 3l. 3s. (No. 371) to 13l. 13s. (No. 363). The ballads varied from 6l. 6s. (No. 386) to 23l. (No. 383). No. 473 produced 18l.; No. 510, 12l. 12s.; No. 515, 15l.; No. 556, 15l. 5s.; No. 582, 17l.

## FINE ARTS.

## ROYAL ACADEMY.

On the evening of Wednesday last, being the sixty-sixth anniversary of the institution of the Royal Academy, a general assembly of the academicians was held at Somerset House, when the usual distribution of prizes to the students in drawing, painting, modelling, and architecture took place. The present year is what is termed a by-year; the gold medals, therefore, were not awarded, their adjudication being only biennial. The successful candidates were as follow:—Mr. George Sayer, for the best copy of "The Assumption," by Murillo, from the Dulwich Gallery, now in the School of Painting, the silver medal and the Lectures of the Professors Barry, Opie, and Fuseli, handsomely bound and inscribed. For this prize there were five competitors.—Mr. James Walsh, for the best drawing from the life, the silver medal. For this prize there were ten competitors.—Mr. John Johnson, for the best architectural drawing, from actual admeasurement, of the Council Office and Board of Trade, at Whitehall, the silver medal. For this prize there were six competitors.—Mr. Eldred Lea, for the best drawings from the antique, of the "Head of Jupiter," and "The Laughing Faun," the silver medal. For this prize there were fourteen competitors.—Mr. George Medus Boal, for the best model in alto-relievo, from the antique, of the "Discobolus," the silver medal. For this prize there were five competitors.—The president then briefly addressed the students. He congratulated them, generally, on the result of their efforts; observing that many of the works which had been offered in competition manifested qualities which were highly creditable to the talents and application of the young artists by whom they were produced. With respect, however, to the greater number of the copies which had been made in the School of Painting, he must remark that, notwithstanding their claims to praise as regarded mechanical excellence, they exhibited a feebleness of design, against which the aspiring student ought to guard. The merit of the drawings from the life was particularly deserving of notice, and on that account he confessed his surprise that no *models* in the same department should have been received by the academy. In the drawings from the antique, considerable skill in detail and execution had been displayed; so much so, that had the academy departed from their usual custom of not awarding a second medal, they must have adjudged three, to as many performances of equal excellence. Sir Martin further urged a close and unremitting study of the human figure, as essential to spirit and correctness of design. Purity of design, it must be admitted, was not the cha-

racteristic of the British school; indeed, its deficiency in that respect was its most vulnerable point. Yet design was the quality of art on which all other qualities depended. It had been termed the grammar of art; but it was more, it was its intelligent language. Every precept, every example, every rule of taste, every principle of criticism, combined to enforce the cultivation of this quality; which, if added to the splendid qualities which our school already possessed, would enable British artists to enter into honourable rivalry with the ancient and foreign schools, and would eventually elevate them to an undisputed pre-eminence. For the cultivation of this branch of study every advantage was afforded to the students by the Academy; and he was convinced that all that was requisite was to awaken their enthusiasm and direct it to so important an object, in order to insure their ultimate triumph.

The general assembly afterwards proceeded to appoint officers for the ensuing year, when Sir Martin Archer Shee was unanimously re-elected president.

*Council:* New List.—Alfred Edward Chalon, Thomas Phillips, Augustus Wall Callcott, and William Wilkins, Esqrs.

*Old List:*—Charles Lock Eastlake, Wm. Mulready, Esqrs.

Sir J. Wyatville, and Geo. Jones, Esq.

*Visitors in the Life Academy:* New List.—Richard Cook, William Etty, Henry Howard, William Hilton, and Edwin Landseers, Esqrs.

*Old List:*—A. E. Chalon, C. L. Eastlake, J. M. W. Turner, and A. Cooper, Esqrs.

*Visitors in the School of Painting:* New List.—Abraham Cooper, William Etty, William Mulready, and J. M. W. Turner, Esqrs.

*Old List:*—C. L. Eastlake, T. Phillips, H. Howard, and A. E. Chalon, Esqrs.

*Auditors re-elected:*—W. Mulready, J. M. W. Turner, and R. Westmacott, Esqrs.

*From Returns relating to the Royal Academy, ordered by the House of Commons to be printed, 24th June, 1834.*

"THERE are five professors in the Royal Academy; viz., those of anatomy, perspective, architecture, sculpture, and painting; each of whom is to deliver six lectures annually. The number of lectures delivered in the Academy during the last ten years is as follows:—

	1824	1825	1826	1827	1828	1829	1830	1831	1832	1833	Total
Anatomy....	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	60
Perspective..	6	4	4	4	6	none	none	none	none	none	30
Architecture	none	none	none	none	none	none	none	none	none	none	0
Sculpture ..	6	1	3	3	3	6	6	6	6	6	42
Painting ....	6	none	4	4	6	6	6	6	6	3	43
											139
											111
											250

Of by the four Academician Professors—delivered, 129, instead of 300.—

• Given by audience.

The above quotation, and all the columns

within the frame, are correctly copied from the parliamentary document, except that the word "none" is here inserted instead of its dumb prototype (—). The columns of totals are added in order to prevent mistakes; and the professor of anatomy is kept somewhat apart, because he is not a member of the Royal Academy, nor even an artist, but a surgeon.

Thus—whilst under pretext of bad sight, ill health, death, and resignation, the Academicians compound their accounts with the students for 53½ per cent—gentlemen whose more important avocations might well excuse occasional absence have not omitted one lecture in ten years.

This is the first inquiry made by parliament; the result is, that for six years not one lecture on perspective has been delivered within the walls of the Academy; that, during a still longer period, the infirmities of the professor of architecture put a stop to instruction in that department, which has been re-opened by substitute; that, ultimately, even with this irregular mode of proceeding, four academical professorships have, in ten years, produced only 129 lectures, instead of 240.\*

#### ZINCOGRAPHY.

*The Ruins of St. Stephen's Chapel.* A specimen of the new process of printing from Zinc-plate: printed by Day and Haghe. Vacher and Son.

In the *Literary Gazette* of the 20th of September last, we stated that lithography, it was said, was likely to be superseded, at least in a great degree, by the invention of an ingenious Frenchman, M. Breugnot, who had succeeded in preparing a composition of metal, whose basis was zinc, upon which drawing and writing could be effected with equal, if not with greater facility than upon stone, and from which impressions could be as easily obtained. We also stated that this new art had several advantages over lithography; amongst others, the cheapness and portability of the plates, as compared with stone; for that they could even be adapted to a lady's portfolio, and might be made of any thickness and size—a great desideratum in lithography.

The print, the title of which stands at the head of the present notice, and which, we are informed, was drawn on the plate by Mr. Andrew Picken, was the first example of zincography which we had met with; and we were so much pleased with its force, clearness, and delicacy, and with the flatness and gradation of its tones, that we were induced to make some inquiries respecting this new and valuable art; the result of which inquiries we subjoin.

Zinc is a metal which may always be found pure at shops and places where they profess to work in zinc. It is one of those metals which cannot be adulterated with any other metal cheaper than itself; and, therefore, it may generally be depended on. When required to be used for zincography, that is, as a substitute for the lithographic stone, it ought to be selected free from blisters or cracks; some of which defects proceed from the process of rolling, and some from the sheets being coiled up, after having been rolled, for the convenience of transport. The plate is prepared by rubbing its surface with a small stone and fine sand, in such a way as to produce a uniform grain; and this granulated surface is found best, whether for drawings in the chalk, or for

\* We are indebted to a correspondent for this communication, which we insert without comment. We understand it is to be brought forward in the Academy; and then, if necessary, we shall have no hesitation in declaring our sentiments.—Ed. L. G.

drawings in the pen-and-ink style. The crayons, and all the other processes, are the same as for lithographic drawing; but the mode of preparing the drawing for printing is a secret, and is different from lithography. Printing from zinc was attempted many years ago, both on the continent and in England: it was abandoned, we imagine, because the very great greediness of zinc for grease—and the crayons, &c., alluded to above, are composed of greasy materials—was not discovered. M. Breugnot lately re-introduced it in Paris; and several of his specimens have been shewn in England, as an inducement to some person to take out a patent for the invention. The process, however, adopted at the establishment of Messrs. Day and Haghe, lithographers to the king, is not the same as the French method, but was communicated to those gentlemen by one of their printers, a Polish refugee. As far as they have tried it (and they have printed between two and three thousand from one plate), it promises to give great satisfaction. One of the principal advantages of zincography is, that the very finest touches will print a great number. The drawings of amateurs and inexperienced persons will also be likely to be the more successful, as drawing on zinc is not attended with the timidity of drawing on stone. The plates are likewise very portable, and are not liable to the accidents, from breakage, &c., to which lithographic stones are subject.

#### SCULPTURE.

WE rejoice to hear that our admirable sculptor, Baily, has been commissioned to execute a statue of Dr. Jebb, the late venerable Bishop of Limerick. Of a mother and child by the same accomplished artist we have the highest report: it is described to be an exquisite group, and altogether worthy of the sculptor of Eve.

#### BIOGRAPHY.

THE REV. E. IRVING.

MR. IRVING, the famous preacher, died at Glasgow on the 6th, aged 42. Mr. Irving was a native, we believe, of the same parish as Mr. Pringle. His literary productions consist of sermons, &c. In the pulpit, he was at times as powerful and eloquent as any man we ever heard; though his strange doctrines ultimately led to much controversy. He was curiously familiar with early Scots ballad lore; and, when unbent in private society, delighted in repeating, or rather chanting, scraps of these national memorials.

THOMAS PRINGLE, ESQ.

WE have the melancholy task of announcing the death of this amiable individual, whose literary productions have so often elicited our cordial praise. Mr. Pringle was born in Roxburghshire, on the border of Berwickshire, and was only forty-six years of age. He was lame from his infancy. Some years ago, he accompanied a part of his family to the Cape of Good Hope, where he pursued his literary career. Mr. P. had some concern in the starting of *Blackwood's Magazine*; and, besides his many contributions to periodical works, published some pleasing poetry. He was the editor of *Friendship's Offering*; and wrote many excellent articles in that Annual. Mr. Pringle was also the secretary to the Anti-slavery Association, and superintended their publications. He was on the eve of returning to the Cape when seized with his mortal illness; and, we fear, like most labourers in the field of life-

nature, he died poor, leaving a widow and sister, whom he protected, to lament his loss.

#### RICHARD MILLIKEN, ESQ.

ON the 6th instant, at his house in Grafton Street, Richard Milliken, Esq., in his 51st year. A man more estimable in the relations of private life, or in his intercourse with his fellow-citizens—a man more beloved by those who shared in his friendship and acquaintance, and more sincerely regretted, never lived. As a father of a very numerous and interesting family—as the husband of an amiable and exemplary woman, there was no man more affectionate or more devoted; as a citizen of Dublin, engaged in a business which brought him into contact with the gentry of the country, with literary men, and the learned professions, we are satisfied that few men were regarded with greater respect, and had so many personal friends.—[We copy this tribute to an eminent bookseller and publisher from a Dublin journal; sincerely joining in the tribute of respect and regret which it pays to departed worth.—*Ed. L. G.*]

#### ALEXANDER CHALMERS, ESQ.

WE have just read in the journals the death of this eminent author, at the age of 76. His biographical and other works are very voluminous and valuable; for he devoted his long life indefatigably to literary pursuits.

#### DRAMA.

OUR dramatic critique for the past week may properly be confined within very small bounds. At Covent Garden *Othello* was travestied, Mr. Denzil doing *Iago*, in place of *Othello*, and Mr. Vandenhoff *vice versa*. The *Clandestine Marriage* was announced one night, but *Hamlet* was murdered instead. Indeed, such a week of failures, except Thursday, when the houses were fortunately shut, has not been paralleled even under the present management.

Mrs. Nesbitt has been added to the fair band at the Strand Theatre. At the Victoria, *Two Murderers* are having a great run; Wallack and Vale acting very cleverly. At the Surrey, *Jacob Faithful* has been dramatised.

#### VARIETIES.

**British Museum.**—Three of the trustees of this institution have died within a short period of each other, viz. Earl Hardwicke, Earl Spencer, and the Duke of Gloucester. Mr. Banks, sen., a fourth trustee, is so ill that he is unable to attend to the business of the Museum. Unfortunately, he was one of its most active officers.

**Earthquake, &c.**—The *Scotsman* newspaper states, that on the 25th of August, the date of a violent eruption of Vesuvius, the shock of an earthquake was felt at Comrie, in Perthshire.

**Meteors.**—The *New York Journal of Commerce* contains (Nov. 19) a story about some shower of a thousand meteors, seen and foreseen by Professor Olmsted, of Yale College, and which fell during several hours, from midnight to day-dawn, on the 13th. As last year, the writer adds, they appeared to radiate from a common centre in the constellation Leo.

**Dutch Pictures.**—A number of paintings, by celebrated masters, which have been locked up for forty years, were recently found at Brussels. They are on wood and copper, and consist of a Portrait of Admiral de Ruyter, by Rembrandt; a Street in Leyden, by Jan Steen, with figures; a Landscape, by G. Netscher, with the death of Mary Magdalen introduced;

and another of the Rhine near Treves, with Genevieve of Brabant and her child at the foot of a tree; seven portraits of Netscher, by himself, on a small enamel table; and portraits of Maurice of Nassau by Vanderneuf, of F. Mieris (aged 26) by himself, of William I., Louis, William John, and Philip of Nassau, by Mirevelt, and of Frederick Henry, by Gonzales Coques. They are all said to be in the highest preservation, and admirable specimens of the artists.

**Rock Avalanche.**—One of those partial disruptions of nature which perform the works of geology took place in September at Santa Vera, in Peru; where a mass of rock, loosened by the weather, descended with a dreadful crash upon the peaceful village below, and destroyed twenty-three of its inhabitants, besides many sheep, cattle, and other animals.

**Swan River.**—The last accounts from this settlement are to nearly the middle of May, when the colony was quiet, and, though provisions were rather high-priced, increasing in productiveness and prosperity.

**Longevity of Quakers.**—The *Derbyshire Courier* states, that the Society of Friends have recently been engaged in statistical inquiries, which tend to demonstrate that longevity in their sect is the result of their regular habits and temperance. As a proof, it is stated, that in Chesterfield churchyard the aggregate age of the last 100 individuals buried, to the date of 16th November, was 2,516 years and a half, while the aggregate of the last 100 Quakers amounted to 4,790 years seven months; giving an average of the duration of life of the former of only 25 years two months, and of the latter of 47 years ten months. We need not cry, "Long life to the Quakers!"

**Russian Calculating Boy.**—Another of these arithmetical phenomena has recently appeared in Russia. His name is Ivan Petroff; he is eleven years old, the son of illiterate peasants, and can neither read nor write; yet he solves the most difficult questions of calculation by a process of mind which he cannot explain. The emperor, having witnessed his powers, has given 1000 roubles for his education.

**Ocean Currents.**—A bottle thrown overboard from the South American packet in the Gulf Stream off Cape Cod, lat. 40° 30' N., long. 68° W. in March last, was on Tuesday picked up on the shore at Southport.

**Parliamentary Debates.**—We find that it is intended in the new House of Commons to construct a gallery immediately behind and above the Speaker's chair, exclusively for the parliamentary reporters, with easy means of egress and regress, and every other accommodation that may be deemed desirable. This is as it should be. We could perfectly understand, although we did not concur in them, the objections which some persons formerly entertained to the practice of publishing reports of the debates in parliament; but when those objections were abandoned, and when the publication was, we may justly say, sanctioned by the tacit acquiescence of both houses, we never could understand why every possible facility was not afforded for the correct execution of a task which must be sufficiently difficult and laborious even under the most favourable circumstances.

**Diamond.**—Galignani's Paris paper contains an account of a fine diamond found by a poor man in a piece of wood from the Levant, and which is valued at 500,000 francs, and would be worth much more if it had not a slight tinge of yellow. It had, it is supposed, been concealed in the tree when young.

"*Logic.*"—How is it," said we to an inci-

dent wag a few days since,—"how is it that homely women always have the clearest heads?" "Why," said he, "it is according to the rule laid down by St. Paul—'to the pure all things are pure,' even so to the plain all things are plain."—*New York Bookseller's Advertiser.*

**Phraseology.**—We have often been amused with anecdotes illustrative of the peculiar phraseology of some of the people of the Western States. A gentleman from the eastern part of this State, who has just completed a tour through the wilds of the West, gave us the following. He rode up to a house in Illinois, around which were more improvements than were common to the country. On inquiring of the owner if he would sell the premises, he replied he would. "What do you ask?" was the second interrogatory. "I ask a good deal." "How much is that?" "A right smart chance of money." "What is a right smart chance of money?" "A heap more than I gin for it." "Well, sir, what is your price, now, per acre?" "I'll allow I don't want to sell it."—*Ibid.*

**A Sailor's Wedding.**—A tar, just returned from sea, met one of his female acquaintances. He was so overjoyed, that he determined to marry her; but at the altar the parson demurred, as there was not cash enough between them to pay the fees; upon which Jack offered a few shillings, saying, "Never mind, brother, marry us as far as it will go."—*Ibid.*

#### LITERARY NOVELTIES.

Messrs. Carey, Lea, and Blanchard will issue, in the course of the autumn, Miss Fanny Kemble's (Mrs. Butler's) book on America and American manners.

A volume is now in the press in Philadelphia, entitled *Men and Manners in New Orleans*. The author resided more than twenty years in that city.

*Naval History of the United States*, by the Author of "Sketches of Turkey," (Dr. De Kay, of this city.)

A tale in one volume, by the Author of "Guy Rivers," (W. G. Simms, of this city.)

Part of Bulwer's new novel, "The Last Days of Pompeii," has been received, and is in the press of the Harpers.

—*New Yorker.*  
—Also, "France, Social, Literary, and Political," by H. L. Bulwer, a brother of the novelist, whose knowledge of the subject on which he writes is said to be extensive and profound.—*Ibid.*—(The above six notices are from the *New York Bookseller's Advertiser.*)

#### In the Press.

Coghlan's New Pocket Picture of London, arranged in Alphabetical order, with a Map.—Directions for insuring Personal Safety during Storms of Thunder and Lightning, and for the right application of Conductors to Houses, &c. by John Leigh, junr. — *See* A pamphlet, entitled *England, France, Russia, and Turkey.*

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Sacred History of the World, by Sharon Turner, F.S.A. &c. Vol. II., 8vo. 14s. bds.—Short Whist; its Rise, Progress, and Laws, by Major A\*\*\*\*\*. 18mo. 3s. cloth.—Encyclopedia of Gardening, by J. C. Loudon, F.L.H., &c. new edit. 1 vol. thick 8vo. 2l. 10s. bds.—Simple Hymns and Poems for Infant Schools. 18mo. 1s. 6d. cloth.—Lapland and its Rein-Deer. 18mo. 2s. cloth.—Holidays at Brighton; or, Sea-side Amusements. 18mo. 2s. 6d. cloth.—Sketches from a Youthful Circle, fcp. 8vo. 4s. 6d. cloth.—Memoirs of John F. Oberlin, fifth edit. 18mo. 5s. cloth; 6s. silk.—Family Prayers, by Rev. A. M. Toplady, new edit. 18mo. 2s. bds.—Pastoral Appeals on Prayer, by Rev. R. M. Hamilton, 18mo. 2s. cloth.—Death; with other Poems, by Robert Montgomery, fifth edit. 18mo. 7s. 6d. cloth.—The Commemorative Wreath on Extinction of Slavery. 12mo. 3s. cloth; 5s. silk.—A Narrative of Events in the south of France, and of the Attack on New Orleans in 1814 and 1815, by Capt. John Cooke, post 8vo. 10s. 6d. bds.—The Practical Elocutionist, by Alex. Bell, 12mo. 5s. 6d. bds.—Cruise's Digest of the Laws of real Property, fourth edit., by H. P. White, Esq. 7 vols. 8vo. 3l. 12s. bds.—The Princess; or, the Beguine, by Lady Morgan, 3 vols. post 8vo. 1l. 11s. 6d. bds.—Jardine's Naturalist's Library, Vol. VI. "Game Birds," 12mo. 6s. cloth.—A Treatise on Nautical Surveying, by Commander Edward Belcher, royal 8vo., Plates, 21s. cloth.—Practical Precedents in Pleading in Accordance with the recent Rules and Statutes, by Charles Petersdorff, Esq. 8vo. 15s. bds.—Robert D'Artois; or, the Heron Vow, 3 vols. post 8vo. 1l. 11s. 6d. bds.—The Christian's Family Assistant, by Rev. H. S. Poppewell, fifth edit. 8vo. 15s. bds.—Remains of Alexander Knox, 2 vols. 8vo. 24s. bds.—Tough Yarns; a Series of Naval Tales and Sketches, by the Author of "Greenwich Hospital," 12mo. 10s. 6d. cloth, illustrated by George Cruikshank.—Sketches of Corfu, Historical and Domestic,



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### METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, 1834.

November.	Thermometer.	Barometer.
Thursday .. 27	From 26 to 46	29-68 to 29-58
Friday .. 28	38 .. 48	29-50 .. 29-46
Saturday .. 29	36 .. 49	29-45 .. 29-40
Sunday .. 30	34 .. 47	29-35 .. 29-37
December.		
Monday .. 1	38 .. 50	29-24 .. 29-16
Tuesday .. 2	40 .. 52	29-45 .. 29-68
Wednesday 3	39 .. 51	29-96 .. 30-09

Prevailing wind, S.W.  
The morning of the 27th generally clear; rain in the evening; the 28th cloudy, except the evening; the 29th and 30th generally clear; rain at times on the 1st inst.; the 2d and 3d cloudy.

Rain fallen .55 of an inch.

December.	Thermometer.	Barometer.
Thursday .. 4	From 40 to 51	30-16 to 30-14
Friday .. 5	29 .. 45	30-07 .. 30-03
Saturday .. 6	30 .. 50	30-00 .. 30-02
Sunday .. 7	31 .. 57	30-06 .. 30-07
Monday .. 8	39 .. 47	30-06 .. 30-13
Tuesday .. 9	31 .. 45	30-42 .. 30-36
Wednesday 10	29 .. 47	30-15 .. 30-30

Prevailing wind, S.W.  
The 4th cloudy except the evening; the morning and evening of the 5th very foggy; the 6th, 7th, and morning of the 8th cloudy, with rain at times on the two latter days; the 9th generally clear. Rain on the morning of the 10th; otherwise generally clear.

Rain fallen .425 of an inch.

Edmonton. CHARLES HENRY ADAMS.  
Latitude .. 51° 37' 39" N.  
Longitude .. 3° 51' W. of Greenwich.

Extracts from a Meteorological Register kept at High Wycombe, Bucks, by a Member of the London Meteorological Society, November 1834.

Thermometer—Highest .....	60° 75' .. the 3d.
Lowest .....	29° 00' .. the 26th.
Mean .....	41° 13' 75.
Barometer—Highest .....	30° 18' .. the 15th.
Lowest .....	29° 40' .. the 29th.
Mean .....	29° 48' 183.

Number of days of rain, 10.  
Quantity of rain in inches and decimals, 2.35.  
Winds.—4 East—1 West—6 North—3 South—4 North-east—1 South-east—4 South-west—5 North-west.

General Observations.—The thermometer reached an elevation above the maximum in November last year, which was extraordinarily high, and the mean was above those in the last five years for the same month; the quantity of rain was less than in November 1839; and the barometer corresponded remarkably with the quantity of rain, the mean not having been so high since the year above referred to: the weather was generally fine.

Rain fallen at Highgate during the month of November, 1.660.

### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"London Literary Gazette."—We have been pleased to see occasional extracts from our paper in this respectable and valuable journal; but some how or other, as we Yankees say, we always like to see 'N. Y. Books. Adv.' at the foot of the extract. We observe in the last Gazette the whole of our list of American periodicals copied verbatim, without any credit whatever. 'Fair play to a jewel,' Mr. Gazette.—[An accidental omission, we assure the editor of the New York Bookeller's advertiser, which we would willingly quote, as it is our rule to do with every publication from which we take even a single line. We consider this to be only fair play, and have always reproached the contrary practice.—Ed. L. G.]

As 'A Friend of the Abbe Delamennais' writes both inelegantly and impertinently, he may seek redress where he pleases, and be assured that we are not to be bullied by abusive language to do that which decent civility might readily induce us to do.

We shall not interfere between the editor of the 'New Oracle of Health,' and *they* of the old; for who can decide when Oracles differ? Suffice it to say, that the New refers us to his second No. as refuting the charge of the Old; and therein accuses the said Old of being rival pill-makers to Morison.

Is our Correspondent, who states that Cleopatra's Needle has been transported to Paris, quite sure that this is the monument originally offered to the English government? We rather suspect it is another Egyptian column, from Luxor.

L. L. R. reached us late (Thursday afternoon); will be considered by next week.

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Also, just published by Vacher and Son, 29 Parliament Street, and Charles Tilt, Fleet Street,

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